Shojo Beat Manga
NANA
MENU
PARENTAL ADVISORY
MATURE CONTENT
Story & Art by
Ai Yazawa
14

Shojo Beat

NANA Vol. 14

Story & Art by Ai Yazawa

NANA

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The Story of Nana

Nana "Hachi" Komatsu and Nana Osaki meet by chance on a train headed for Tokyo. Their personalities and the environments they grew up in are very different, but by fate or by chance, they meet again and become roommates...

At the last minute, Naoki invited Hachi to Shin and Reira's joint birthday party. Takumi gets mad at her for coming and tries to make her leave, but this time she doesn't just do whatever he says and actually contemplates leaving him and going back to live in apartment 707.

Hachi decides to stay in Nana's room at the hotel, where Nobu happens to stop by. There's unspoken tension between them, but they finally get a chance to talk, and Hachi comes to understand Nobu's feelings and her own self-centeredness. She also decides to give it one more try with Takumi.

After the party, Blast goes on tour to promote their new album. Misato Uehara is among the fans waiting for them in Osaka, and...

♥For the complete story, please check out *Nana*, volumes 1 - 13.
Available in bookstores everywhere!!

I MEAN, I WAS ENGAGED TO SOME-ONE IN THE RIVAL BAND.

BUT I COULDN'T ACT TOO EXCITED ABOUT IT.

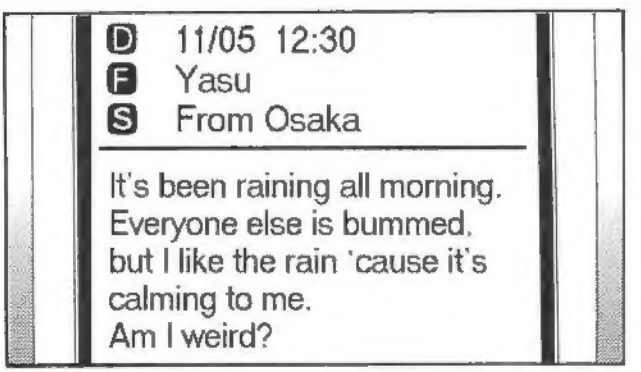
AS TAKUMI PREDICTED, BLAST AMAZINGLY STAYED AT NUMBER ONE.

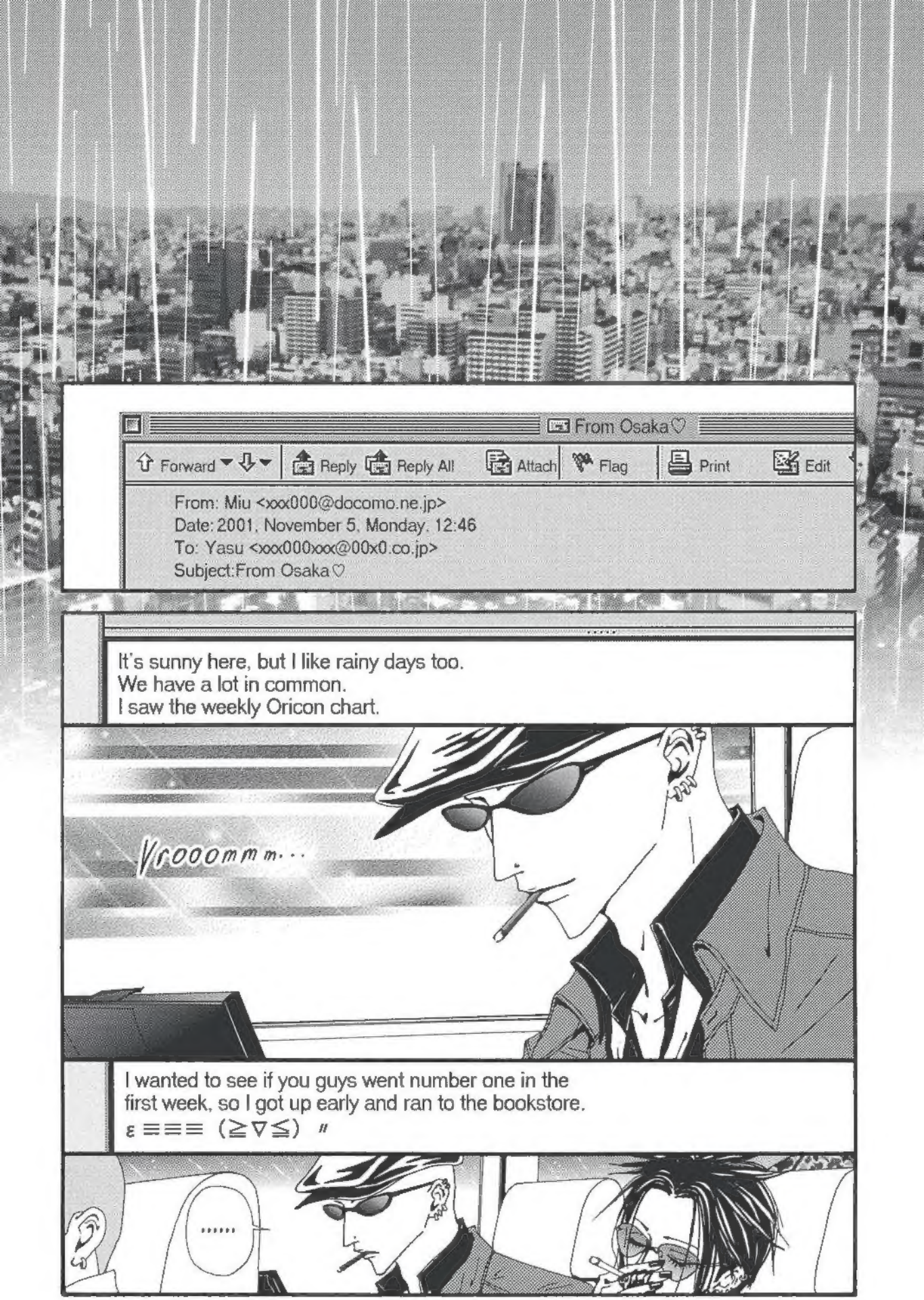
EVERY DAY I USED MY CELL PHONE TO CHECK AND SEE WHERE BLAST'S SINGLE RANKED ON THE CHARTS.

NANA

— ナナ —

[Chapter 50]


D 11/05 12:30
F Yasu
S From Osaka
It's been raining all morning.
Everyone else is bummed,
but I like the rain 'cause it's
calming to me.
Am I weird?


From Osaka♡
Forward
Reply
Reply All
Attach
Flag
Print
Edit
From: Miu <xxx000@docomo.ne.jp>
Date: 2001, November 5, Monday, 12:46
To: Yasu <xxx000xxx@00x0.co.jp>
Subject:From Osaka♡
It's sunny here, but I like rainy days too.
We have a lot in common.
I saw the weekly Oricon chart.
Vrooommm...
I wanted to see if you guys went number one in the first week, so I got up early and ran to the bookstore.
ε ≡≡≡ (≧∇≦) 〃
.....

But the chart wasn't in there.
It's in the next issue.
I didn't think I was so out of it.
So I guess I shouldn't accuse Nobu of being like that.
Maybe I'm just depressed. (-_-)

A girl??
WHO'S IT FROM?
YOU CHECKING EMAIL?
WELL, AREN'T YOU HAVING TOO MUCH FUN!♡
SLAP!
IS IT REIRA?
Ha Ha
ORICON UPDATES TO YOUR CELL PHONE, RIGHT?
HEY, GIN.
....
kssh
I CAN'T WAIT! ♡
WE'RE GONNA BE NUMBER ONE, I CAN JUST FEEL IT! THE PUBLIC'S GONNA GO NUTS!
THIS WEEK'S CHART COMES OUT TOMORROW.
YEAH ... ♡

KSSSH
HOW MANY TIMES I GOTTA TELL YOU?!
HEY, GET OUTTA THE STREET!
JUST STAY ON THE SIDE-WALK.
WE'RE NOT GONNA HAVE BLAST PLAY HERE AGAIN IF YOU GROUPIES DON'T STOP BEING SO RUDE!
YOU'RE LYING! TELL US!
OH GOD...
I DON'T KNOW ...
ARE THEY ALREADY HERE?
THEY'RE LATE!
WHEN'S BLAST GOING TO GET HERE?
DON'T BE SO LOUD! I DON'T WANT THEM TO HEAR.
WHAT IF WE GO HOME, AND THEY'RE ALREADY HERE? THAT'D BE STUPID.
I DON'T CARE!
LET'S JUST GO HOME, UEHARA.
I DON'T WANT PEOPLE TO THINK WE'RE LIKE THEM.
I CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS ...
AH HA HA
WHAT-EVER, DUDE!
YOU SUCK!
SAYING "YOU SUCK" AND STUFF.
I DON'T WANT TO BOTHER THE BAND.

I'M GOING TO GO TALK TO THEM.
SRIGGH
NO DON'T!
YOU'LL JUST GET IN A FIGHT.
IT'LL JUST MAKE US BLAST FANS LOOK EVEN WORSE.
Grrr
SCREECH
TAXI
IS IT REALLY?!
IS THAT THEM?!
OOoh!
SLAM

HEY, SHION!
SHE'S AMAZING!
THAT'S HER?!
WHAT?!
OH, IT'S SHION! ♡
BUT WHOEVER THAT IS, SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!
IS SHE A CELEBRITY?
NO, IT'S NOT THEM.
I NEVER HEARD OF HER.
IS SHE THE DJ?
I DON'T KNOW ...
WHO'S SHION?
GET SOME MANNERS, GIRLS!
THIS IS A FUNCTIONING, PUBLIC STREET!
HEY ALL YOU GROUPIES!
blah
blah
SHWOOP

CAN'T YOU TELL?
SHION IS YASU'S GIRL-FRIEND.
OOOH, MAYBE SHE WORKS FOR BLAST?
I DON'T KNOW ...
WHY'RE THEY ALL LISTENING TO HER?
YOU DON'T KNOW ?
STOP MESSING WITH THOSE SWEET LITTLE GIRLS.
RUI!
Ah ha ha
THEY'RE SO GULLI-BLE.
SO OF COURSE SHE'S BEAUTI-FUL.
I CAN TOTALLY SEE THEM TOGETHER!
SHE'S YASU'S GIRL-FRIEND ?!
WOW!

IF SHION LIKES YOU, YOU'RE IN, SO GO INTRODUCE YOUR-SELVES.
YOU'RE LUCKY IF YOU GET TO MEET HER.♡
THINK OF SHION AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAN CLUB.
kssh!
.....
YOU MEAN SHE'S NOT HIS GIRL-FRIEND?
WHAT?
WELL SOMEONE'S GOT TO TAKE CHARGE, NOW THAT BLAST IS SO POPULAR. OTHERWISE IT'S CHAOS.
I THOUGHT YOU HATED SHION.
WELL, YOU'RE BEING NICE, MARIKA! ♡
I HATE HER TOO! ♥
NOBU'S MINE!
I DON'T WANT GROUPIES TO GO BEHIND OUR BACKS AND CLIMB THEIR WAY UP.
JUST INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND HOPE SHE REMEMBERS YOUR NAME AND FACE.
YOU BETTER HURRY!
WHAT DO WE SAY?
WHAT? HOW'RE WE "IN"?
ksshh
YEAH!
Splash
FUJI-MOTO, LET'S GO!
SHE'S SO ANNOYING.
Blast
LIKE MISATO ...
OH...

MAH JONG
PEEP show
blah
blah
KABUKICHO NANABANGAI
S.S. BUILDING
di 4 ng
slide
The Shikai Corporation

click
click
click
knock
knock
YURI?!
BAM

UM...
WHO'RE YOU?
I'M TSUZUKI. I HAVE AN INTERVIEW FOR A JOB HERE AT SIX...
OH...
HUH?
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
WHERE'S THE BOSS?
.....
COME IN THEN.

HE'S TAKING A NAP.
WAKE HIM UP.
ring ring
YES. THE SHIKAI CORPORATION.
DVD VIDEO
Yuri Kosaka
MS. TSUZUKI?
YES, SIR?!
RIGHT THIS WAY.

SHION!
SPLASH
UM ...
MISATO UEHARA?!
I'M MISATO UEHARA.
AND I'M CHIKAGE FUJIMOTO.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
SHE'S KINDA SCARY
HEL... HELLO!
CUTE GIRLS. YOU'RE IN JUNIOR HIGH?
WHY DOES SHE CALL HERSELF THAT?
I GUESS IT'S NOT THAT WEIRD.
SO WHO'S YOUR FAVE?
YES.
HMMM...
?
WELL, YEAH.
HUH?
THAT'S YOUR REAL NAME?

NANA!♡
I LIKE ALL OF THEM...
BUT ESPECIALLY SHIN...
FUJIMOTO!
WRONG ANSWER!
DID YOU BRING PRESENTS FOR THE BAND?
UM ...
JUST A LETTER.
I GUESS WE DIDN'T THINK TO BRING ANYTHING...
I'LL TAKE YOUR LETTERS.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
WHAT ?
SORRY.
YOU CAN'T GIVE IT TO THEM IN PERSON.
TO-DAY ...
...THEIR SCHEDULE'S TIGHT, AND THERE'RE ALL THESE PEOPLE...
To Nana
OH NO ...
THAT SUCKS.
YOU PROMISE TO GIVE IT TO THE BAND, SHION?
OF COURSE!
I'LL MAKE SURE IT GETS TO THEM.
Vivienne Westwood

詩音 SHION
××OO@docomo.ne.jp
090-OO××-××OO
HERE'S MY CARD.
IF YOU EMAIL ME, I'LL SEND THE LATEST BLAST GOSSIP TO YOUR CELL PHONES.
REALLY?
HOW?
WILL YOU GIVE THEM MY LETTER TOO?!
SURE, NO PROBLEM.
THANKS SO MUCH!
Yay!
SHION'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL NAME.
THE KANJI FOR SHI IS "POEM" AND ON IS "SOUND."
LET'S ALL BAND TOGETHER FOR BLAST.
IF YOU'RE A TEAM PLAYER AND BEHAVE, I'LL INVITE YOU TO THE AFTER-PARTIES TOO.
REALLY?
AFTER-PARTIES?!
FOR GROUPIES?!
AFTER-SHOW PARTIES, FOR THE BAND AN CREW.
FANS GET TO GO TOO?
WELL, NOT JUST ANY FANS...
IT DEPENDS ON YOUR ATTITUDE.

NO WAY——...!
SHION!
SPLASH
THE BAND'S HERE!
JUMP
EEE——K!♡
IT'S DAN-GER-OUS!
HEY, STAND BACK!
DON'T YOU WANT THE BAND TO GET IN?!
EVERY-ONE, LET THEM THROUGH!

HU
vrrooomm...
SH
ALL RIGHT.
ALL RIGHT.
...
I GUESS EVERYONE WANTS IN ON THE AFTER-PARTIES.
A GANG OF... GROUP-IES!
THIS IS LIKE A GANG.
THE VOICE OF AUTHOR-ITY.
AMAZING.
ATTEN-TION!
SCREECH
blah
blah
SHUFFLE
SLAM
CLICK

EEK
NANA
AHHH...
THIS IS AWE-SOME.
Thanks for coming here, Blast!
...
THANKS?
THANKS SO MUCH FOR COMING HERE!

EEK!
EEK!
WHAT DO I DO?
I THINK SHE SMILED AT US!
IN THE FLESH.
IT'S THE REAL NANA..
WITH A CUTE LITTLE FACE.
NANA'S SO BEAUTIFUL... ♡
LISTEN FOR US ON THE RADIO! ♡
THANKS YOU GUYS!
WINK
HEY SHIN!
NOBU
SNOON
Hey, Fujimoto! What the...?
YASU!

SHION ...
...YOU MADE IT.
GASP
.....
HERE ARE SOME PRESENTS AND LETTERS FOR YOU GUYS FROM ALL OF US HERE.
OH...
THANKS!
THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF THINGS.

I WANT TO DO IT WITH YASU TOO!♥
FOR REALS?
SO IT'S TRUE.
blah blah
I'M JEALOUS.
WOW!
FWIP
THANK YOU.
THE BAND'S EXHAUSTED FROM BEING ON THE ROAD EVERY DAY, SO PLEASE DON'T WAIT AROUND FOR THEM TO COME OUT. YOU CAN HEAR THEM ON THE RADIO.
THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING OUT IN THE RAIN.
...
click
click
click
MAKE WAY!
HEY, MOVE IT!
THANKS, MAN!
SHION, THANK YOU!♡

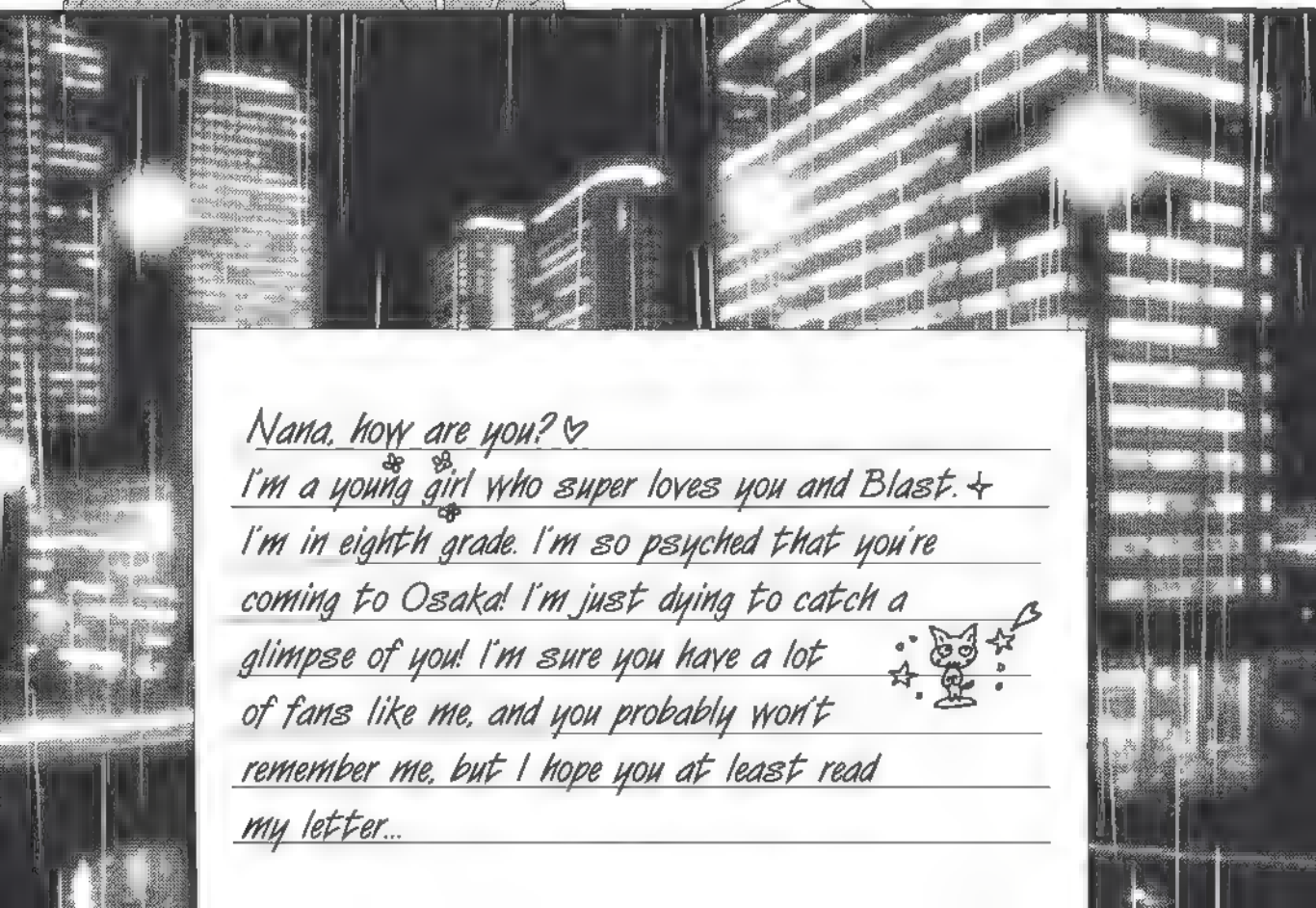
THANK YOU!
No.
We hope we can at least eat okonomiyaki.
You're so busy, do you have any time to do tourist stuff?
Yeah.
It's the first time for all of us.
Japanese 2
Mathematics 2 for Junior High
KSSSH!!
OKONOMIYAKI
UEHARA
Is this Blast's first time in Osaka?
BLACK STONE
COME EAT AT OUR PLACE!
YAY! ♡
RIGHT NOW!
Ah Ha Ha!

"BLAST!"
Here's our brand spankin' new debut single...
All right ...
Then let's have you introduce one of your songs.
♪ ♪ ♪
I KNOW! IT WAS SO COOL.
EVEN AT SCHOOL, PEOPLE DON'T BOND TOGETHER LIKE THAT.
IT'S LIKE WE WALKED INTO A WHOLE NEW WORLD. MY HEART'S STILL POUNDING.
TOTALLY!
IT FEELS LIKE IT WAS ALL JUST A DREAM!
TODAY WAS SO MUCH FUN! ♡
A LOT OF BAND PEOPLE DO IT WITH THEIR GROUP-IES.
WELL, IF HE HAS A GIRL-FRIEND, SHION'S PROBABLY LIKE A FLING OR SOME-THING.
BUT SHE'S NOT HIS GIRL-FRIEND.
SO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
SHE'S THE LEADER OF THE GROUPIE GANG.
BUT IT'S SCARY WHEN SHE GLARES AT YOU.
BUT SHION'S ALSO A PRETTY BIG PERSON-ALITY, WHICH IS COOL TOO.
AND NANA WAS TOTALLY COOL, OF COURSE ...
IT WAS HOT.
SHE'S SO SEXY.
YASU TALKED TO HER LIKE HE KNEW HER. SO MAYBE WHAT RUI AND THEM WERE SAYING IS TRUE.

I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL TALK...
IT'S ALL ON THE INTER-NET.
BEING A GROUPIE 101.
...BUT THIS STUFF REALLY DOES HAPPEN.
YOU SEEM SO NERDY, BUT THE THINGS YOU SAY...
HOW DO YOU KNOW THESE KIND OF THINGS, FUJIMOTO?
thump thump
WHAT A CRAZY WORLD ...
AND WE STEPPED RIGHT INTO IT.
.....
WHO SAYS I WANT TO?!
SO IF YOU TRY REALLY HARD, MAYBE YOU CAN HOOK UP WITH SHIN, FUJIMOTO!
knock knock knock
UM, COME IN!
SCOOT
creak
HEY, MISATO ...
DAD TOLD ME TO BRING THIS UP TO YOU AND YOUR FRIEND.

YAY! I WAS SO HUNGRY!
THIS FRIEND ACTUALLY LOOKS KIND OF NORMAL.
HEY...
THANKS, MAN.
MAKES ME NERVOUS.
LOOKS YUMMY!
Plunk
OH, THIS IS FUJIMOTO, MY FRIEND FROM SCHOOL.
SHE'S A BIG BLAST FAN TOO!
SHE'S MY NEW BFF!
NICE TO MEET YOU.
WHAT THE ...?
DON'T TURN THE CLASS PREZ INTO A FREAK LIKE YOU.
CLASS PRESIDENT?
Boo!
FUJIMOTO'S ON THE CLEAN-UP COMMITTEE.
SHE LIKES TO KEEP THINGS CLEAN, SO SHE LIKES WELL-GROOMED GUYS.
WELL-GROOMED GUYS?
OMIGOD!
SHUT UP AND GET OUT OF HERE!
WHY YOU HANGING OUT IN HERE ANYWAYS?
SEE YOU LATER, FUJIMOTO...
COME OVER ANYTIME.
THEN SHE MUST BE ALL OVER ME.

BUT SHIN BEATS HIM, HANDS DOWN.
IS YOUR PRE-SCRIP-TION RIGHT?!
I WISH I HAD A BIG BROTHER LIKE THAT.
YOU'RE SO LUCKY.
DON'T EVEN COM-PARE HIM TO SHIN!
SORRY 'BOUT MY BROTHER.
HE'S CUTE.
SO EMBAR-RASSING.
I WOULD BE ALL OVER HIM! ♡

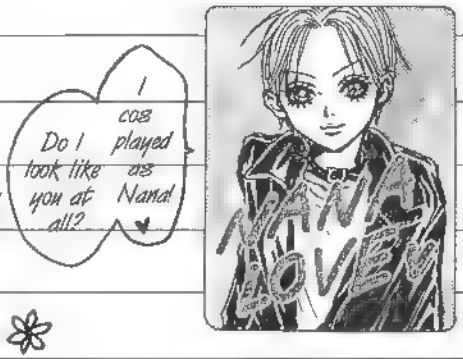


Nana, how are you? ♡
I'm a young girl who super loves you and Blast. I'm in eighth grade. I'm so psyched that you're coming to Osaka! I'm just dying to catch a glimpse of you! I'm sure you have a lot of fans like me, and you probably won't remember me, but I hope you at least read my letter...

You sing about problems that you can't do anything about, but there's a mysterious power that blows it all away. In front of other people, I act flighty, but I have serious things I don't tell anyone about.
When I listen to your music, it recharges me!
Nana, I respect you so much! You're amazing!

I live above an okonomiyaki shop.
It's a dingy little place, but the food's great!
Everyone's always happy when they eat the okonomi that my dad makes. I respect my dad, too.
If you have time, please come eat at our place!
(With Ren!)

I wish you happiness and success, and will always always love you!



Misato Uehara

This is the address and map to our place.

MISATO UEHARA ?!
WHAT ?
MISATO ?
SHE WAS HERE ?
NO, DIFFERENT GIRL ...
BUT THE EXACT SAME NAME.
MISATO JR.?
HMMM...
SHE'S CUTE.
....
HEY, SHE IS CUTE. ♡ REAL CUTE.
AND SHE LOOKS A LOT LIKE NANA. THAT'S RARE.
OH NOBUO! ♡
SO DOES THAT MEAN YOU THINK I'M CUTE?
...
THE FANS TODAY WERE REALLY POLITE AND STUFF.
I WAS SURPRISED.
LIKE A MILITARY REGIMENT.
WHO WAS THAT GIRL GIVING ORDERS IN KANSAI-BEN— THE ONE STANDING NEXT TO SHION?
WEARING A I HEART JACKET.
YEAH ...
I WAS SURPRISED TOO.

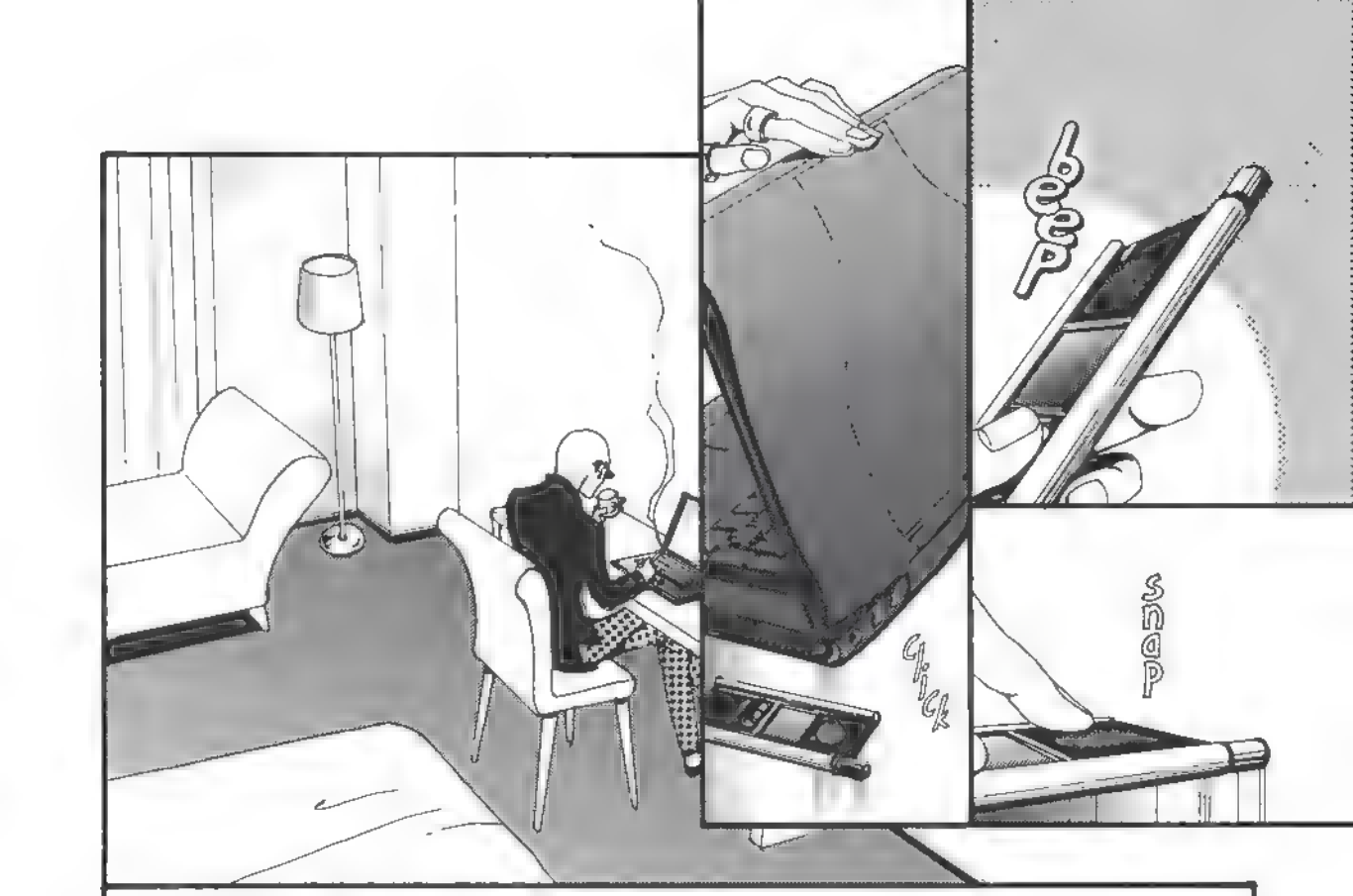
Kansai-ben is the dialect of the Kansai region.

YOU DON'T KNOW SHION?
YEAH, BUT...
WHO'S SHION?
THE GIRL WITH LONG BROWN HAIR WEARING THAT RARE HARRIS TWEED SUIT?
SHE WAS COOL!
WE HAVE FANS EVERY-WHERE NOW, IT'S HARD TO KEEP TRACK.
I WANT TO REMEMBER THE FANS WHO WAIT FOR US BEFORE AND AFTER THE SHOW.
I DON'T THINK I'D OVERLOOK A BEAUTIFUL OLDER WOMAN LIKE THAT.
SHE WAS?
WHAT?
SHE WAS AT OUR TOKYO SHOW, TOO.
SHE ONLY HAS EYES FOR YASU... EVER SINCE BRUTE.
YOU WOULDN'T GET ANY-WHERE WITH HER ANYWAY.
SORRY, DUDE. ♡
Or I'll kill you!
DON'T YOU SLEEP WITH OUR FANS!
I'D GIVE HER A BIG DIS-COUNT!
I WISH SHION WOULD BE ONE OF MY GOOD CUSTOM-ERS! ♡
SHE DOESN'T DANCE OR ANY-THING.
AS IF SHE'S CREW OR MUSIC INDUSTRY.
SHE WAS WATCHING US OVER BY THE WALL... WELL, MORE LIKE STARING...

BUT WASN'T YASU 14 WHEN HE WAS IN BRUTE?
SHE'S BEEN A FAN FOR OVER TEN YEARS?
WHAT?
WELL, THEY ONLY GOT FANS AFTER THEY STARTED PLAYING SHOWS.
SO MORE LIKE TENTH GRADE.
BUT I'M NOT SURE.
OH...
BUT THAT'S STILL A LONG TIME.
MAYBE SHION JUST KNOWS YASU BEST...
LIKE SHE'S INVESTI-GATED HIM MORE THAN MISATO HAS.
AND YASU ONLY.
WELL, SHION'S DONE A LOT OF THINGS, LIKE A LOT OF NAUGHTY THINGS, WITH YASU!
BUT DON'T YOU EVER TELL ANYONE! ♡
WHAT?!
YOU'RE KID-DING ME?!
NO, IT'S JUST A RUMOR AMONGST ALL THE GROUP-IES.
THEY HAVE RUMORS ABOUT ME THAT AREN'T TRUE EITHER.
SO IT'S ALL MADE UP?
THAT'S NO FUN.
YASU WOULDN'T DO ANY-THING LIKE THAT.
JUST 'CAUSE SOMETHING SEEMS FUN DOESN'T MEAN IT'S ALL RIGHT!
GOT IT?!

IF YASU'S BEING BAD, THEN I'M GONNA GO DO IT WITH MARIKA.
YASU WOULDN'T USE WOMEN JUST TO GET OFF!
YOU'RE DRUNK, NOBUO!
DON'T YOU DARE!
HE'S GOT TO HAVE AN OUTLET SOME WAY, SOME-HOW.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE HASN'T HAD A GIRLFRIEND FOR SO LONG, AND DOESN'T SEEM TO CARE.
BUT MAYBE IT'S TRUE.
YASU'S A PRETTY PRIVATE GUY.
SHOULD WE HAVE THEM ALL OVER HERE?
GIMME A BREAK. YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP US UP ALL NIGHT EXPLAIN-ING THAT STORY.
THERE'D BE NO GAME IN THAT. ♥
SHE'S THE GIRL WHO MADE A SUCCESSFUL BID FOR THE SECOND BUTTON ON MY HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM. ♡
IS SHE HOT?
WHO'S MARIKA?
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
OH...
You don't do that, do you?!
No!
YEAH, LET'S HAVE A CD RELEASE PARTY AND INVITE OUR BEST LOCAL FANS.
SO WE CAN HAVE THEM OVER?!
WHAT?! YOU'RE INTO THAT?!
LIKE A BIG ORGY?
REALLY? COOL! ♡

A THANK YOU PARTY! ♡
TO THANK THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT, AND TO KEEP THEM ON OUR SIDE.
YEAH!
THEN I CAN GET INTRO-DUCED PROPERLY ...
TO ALL THE HOT OLDER LADIES! ♡
YEAH, MAYBE IT'S A GOOD IDEA.
WE'VE NEVER REALLY DONE ANY SORT OF FAN MEET-N-GREET BEFORE.
AND THEY'RE SO GOOD TO US...
YEAH, LIKE AKIKO ...
SHE SAYS SHE FEELS SAD THAT I GOT POPULAR AND SEEM SO INACCESSIBLE NOW.
WHEN I HEAR THINGS LIKE THAT, I FEEL SAD.
I HAVEN'T CHANGED.
THAT'S WHAT AKIKO'S SAYING?
THEN WE HAVE TO HAVE A PARTY.
sniff ...
WHO'S AKIKO?
YOU'LL FIND OUT AT THE PARTY.
NOW GO GET ME SOME ICE.
GOD— YOU REALLY USE PEOPLE.
GO GET IT YOUR-SELF.
SO WHERE IS YASU?
mumble
WHY ISN'T HE HERE WHEN WE'RE MAKING IMPORTANT PLANS?
SOME-THING'S WRONG...
WELL, TELL HIM TO GET OVER HERE THEN.
YEAH!



From Osaka

Forward | Reply | Reply All | Attach | Flag | Print | Edit

From: Miu <xxx000@docomo.ne.jp>
Date: 2001 November 5 Monday 12:46
To: Yasu <xxx000xxx@00x0.co.jp>
Subject: From Osaka

It's sunny here, but I like rainy days too.
We have a lot in common.
I saw the weekly Oricon chart.

So speaking of Nobu, Yuri skipped work yesterday and hasn't been heard from since. Have you heard anything about it?

If Nobu doesn't know anything, please don't tell him yet. Yuri disappears a lot. But if she doesn't come back in a few days, I have to say something. Sorry to bother you when you're so busy.
tap
Force Quit
Sleep
Restart
Log Out ⌘Q
click
click
chak

Slam

FWIP
...
OH MAN ...
I JUST SAW SOMETHING I WASN'T S'POSED TO SEE.
I FEEL MY INNOCENCE CRUMBLING INSIDE.
crumble
I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING.
I CAN'T BLOCK IT OUT LIKE YOU DO, SHIN.
OH YES YOU CAN.
THINK ABOUT WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF NANA FINDS OUT.
I'D FEAR FOR YASU'S LIFE!
YOU'RE NOT VERY SOPHIS-TICATED, NOBU.
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, NANA AND YASU ARE...
DON'T SAY IT!
NANA'S MARRYING REN!

YOU CAN BLOCK IT OUT.
SEE?
WHERE'S YASU?
Plunk
HE'S TIRED, SO HE'S GOING TO BED.
WHAAAAAAAT?
"DO NOT DISTURB." ♥
WITH GIN. ♡
HA! HA! HA!

WHEN DID I EVER SAY I WAS?
ARE YOU REALLY IN LOVE WITH HER?
WHAT THE HELL? YOU'RE PLAYING IT COOL.
YOU CAN'T IGNORE HIM FOR TWO WEEKS WHEN YOU'RE LIKE NEWLYWEDS.
SO ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD CALL REN.
SHE HASN'T EMAILED ME. SHE'S PROBABLY BUSY.
SHE'S POPULAR.
DON'T MESS WITH MARIKA.
WHY DON'T YOU EMAIL YURI?
YOU'RE THE NEWLY-WEDS.
SIGH

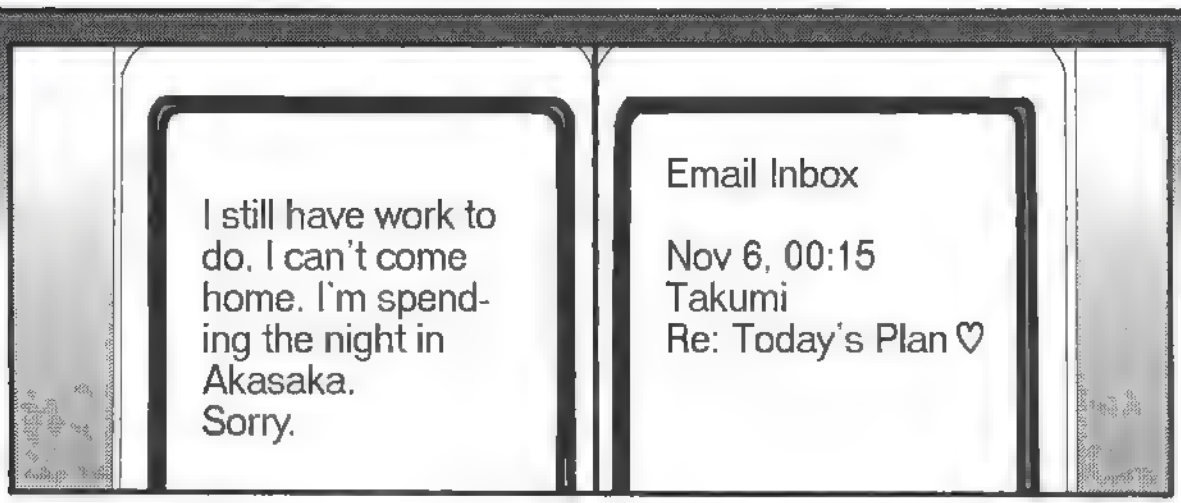
ARE YOU STILL HUNG UP ON HACHI?
IT'S OKAY... AND YOU GUYS ARE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY.
WHY NOT?
GET OVER IT, DUDE.
NO WAY.
I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE WITH HER.
I JUST LOST TO TEMP-TATION.

WHEN HE THINKS ABOUT YURI, HE WANTS TO SET ALL THE VIDEO STORES ON FIRE.
I'LL HELP YOU OUT, NOBUO.
WHAT HAPPENS ON TOUR, STAYS ON TOUR.
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT! IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU MEAN IT! YOU'RE SCARING ME!
Don't mess with me!
HEY, NANA...

I COULDN'T BE TOTALLY HAPPY ABOUT BLAST GETTING FAMOUS...
...'CAUSE I WAS AFRAID YOU'D BECOME A STRANGER TO ME.
SO INSTEAD I CLUNG EVEN MORE TO TAKUMI.

I WAS ALWAYS GOING BACK AND FORTH...

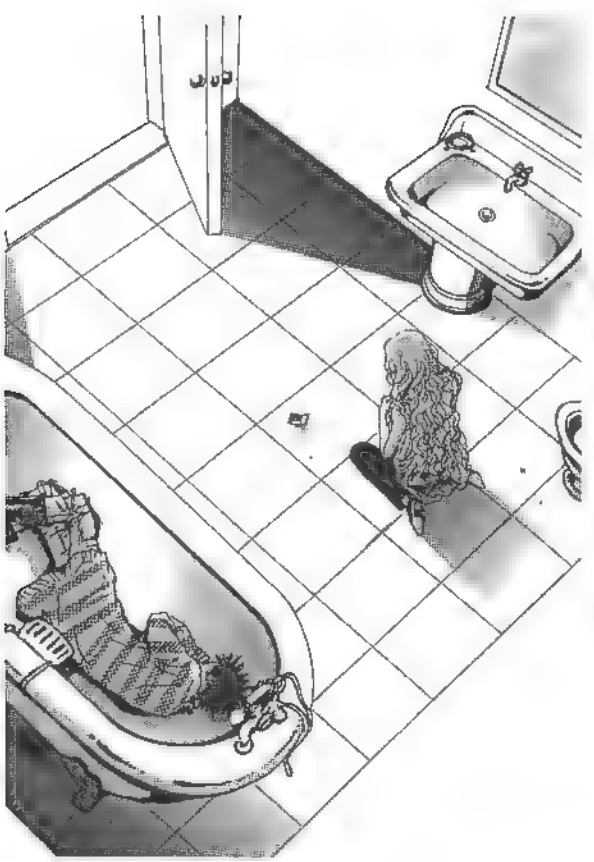
...AND NEVER LEARNED MY LESSON.



You could've at least told me earlier!
WAAAH!
You suck!
Fine. (^ ^)ゞ
Good luck with your work.♡(^ε^)／
.....
beep
WHAT A BAD BOY! ♡
IS THAT YOUR WIFE?

....
I NOW KNOW WHAT LOVE IS.
BUT SINCE WE'RE HERE, WANNA DO IT AGAIN?
OH SUMI-KA...
PLEASE DON'T SEDUCE ME ANY-MORE.
THERE'S TOO MUCH TEMPTATION IN THIS BUSINESS. AND EVERYONE'S CRAZY.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S CRAZY, TAKUMI.
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO MARRY A NOBODY?
...
OH, I'M SUPER-SERI-OUS.
I'M GOING TO STAR IN A PRIME-TIME SERIES IN JANUARY.
ISN'T THAT GREAT?
HMMM...
YOU'RE STAR-RING...
SHUT UP, YOU JERK! I GOT THE JOB 'CAUSE I HAVE TALENT!
CONGRATS!
YEAH, THAT'S GREAT.
SO YOU SLEPT WITH THE PRODUCER?

I WANT TO LOVE, EVEN IF I'M NOT LOVED.
I WANT TO LOVE SOMEONE TOTALLY...
...FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
IT'S THE MOST SIMPLE THING TO DO.
SO WHY IS IT SO HARD?



AAAH!
HERE, OPEN YOUR MOUTH.

...NO MATTER WHAT
I'LL KEEP ON BEING NUMBER ONE
AS LONG AS I'M NUMBER ONE, THAT'S ALL RIGHT
I DON'T CARE IF TAKUMI HAS A HUNDRED WOMEN
MOST OF THE TIME IT PROBABLY REALLY WAS WORK, BUT SOME-TIMES MY INSTINCTS TOLD ME OTHER-WISE
TAKUMI SAID HE'D TRY TO COME HOME EVERY NIGHT, BUT THERE WERE A LOT OF TIMES HE DIDN'T COME HOME 'CAUSE OF WORK
TRAPNEST

BLACK
STONE
Chapter 31
MANHWA
BLACK
STONE

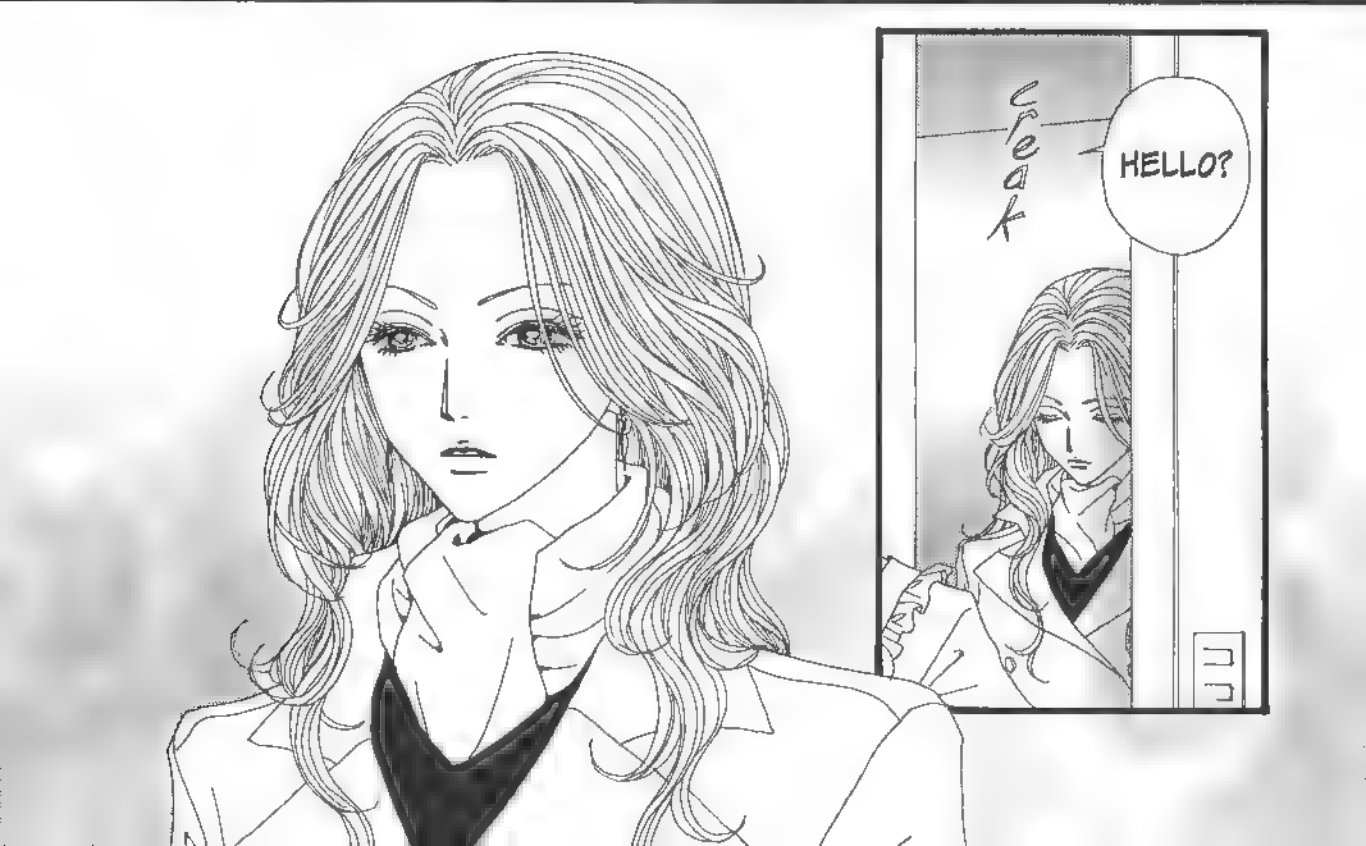
blah
blah
blah
vrrroooom...

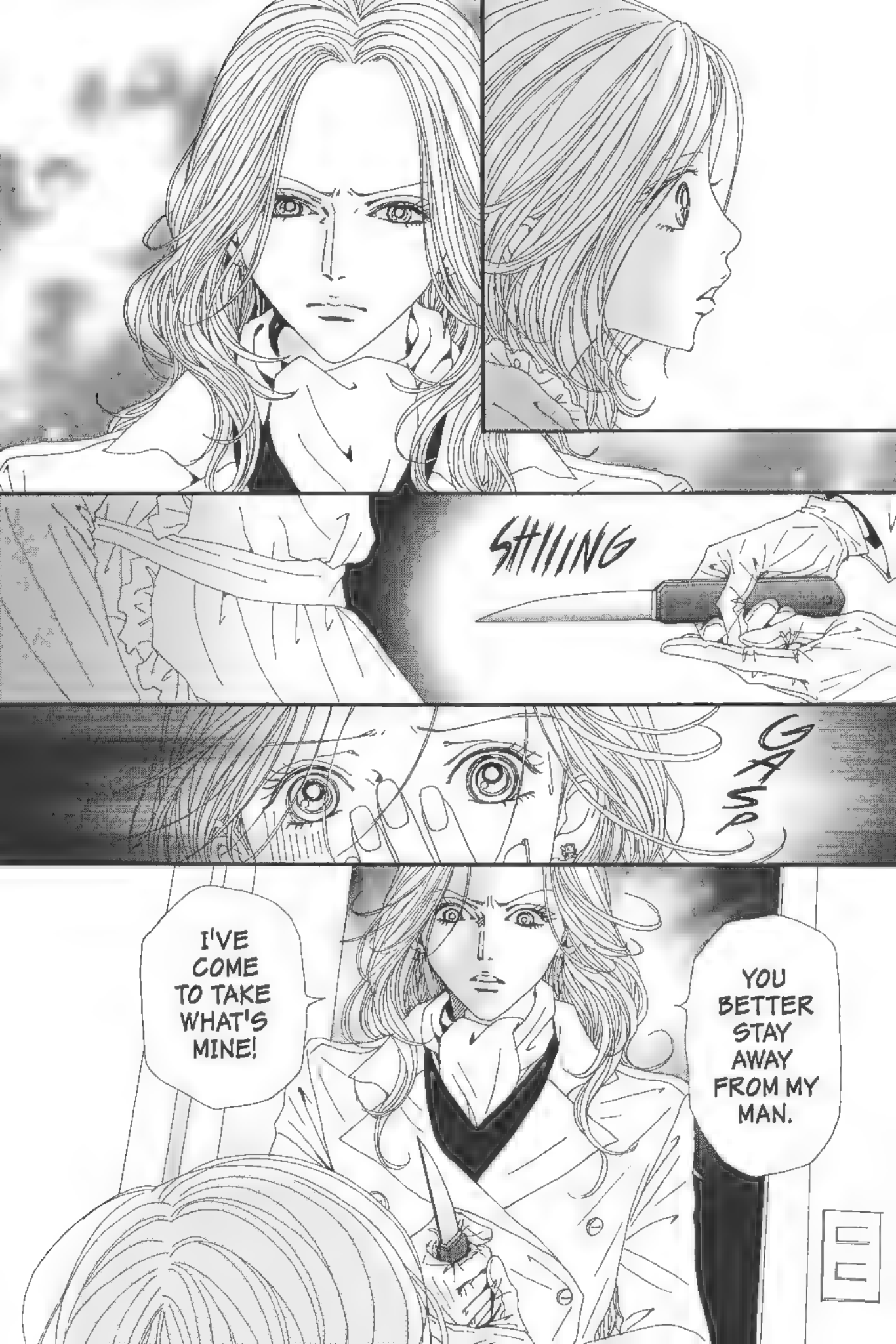
KENWOOD
RAPNEST
HEY!
IT'S REIRA!
200

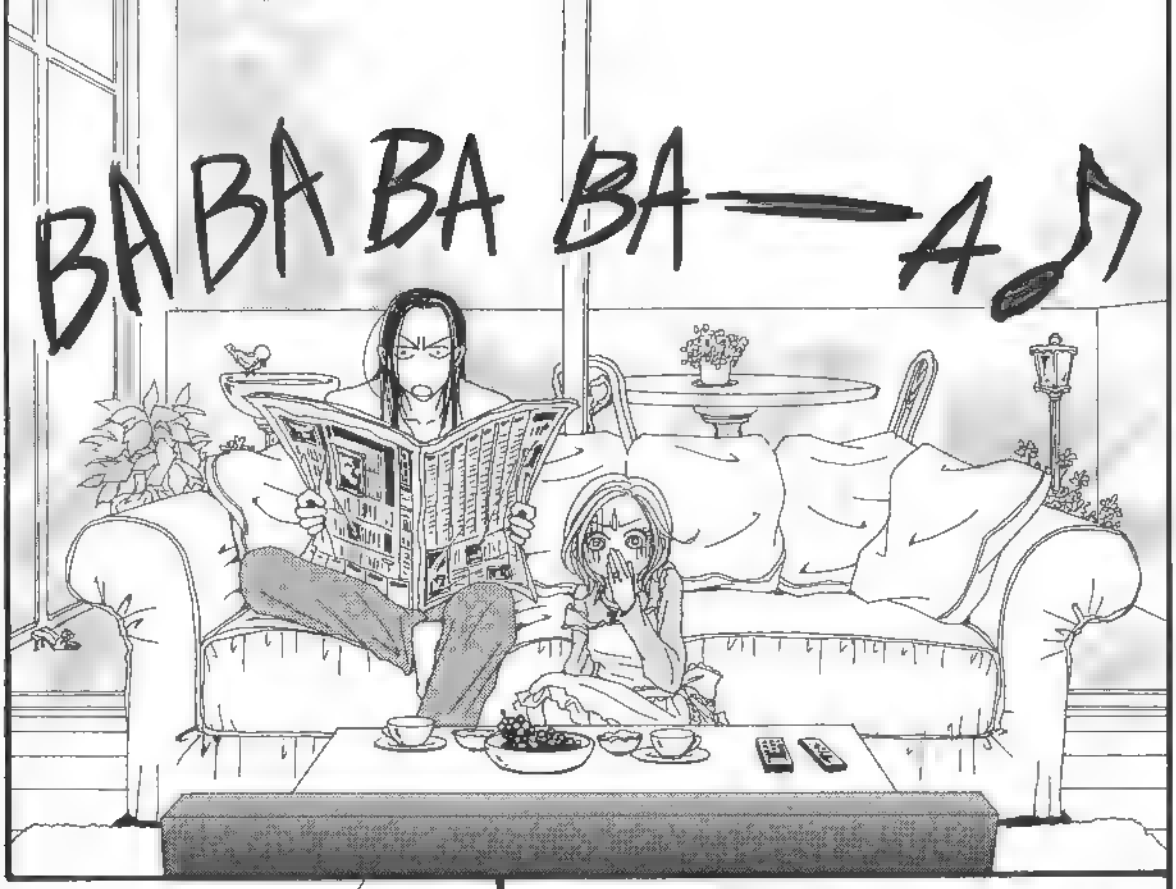
FLINCH
I DON'T LIKE THE "AREN'T I THE BEST SINGER IN THE WORLD?" WAY SHE SINGS.
vrroom
blah
blah
I WANT THAT SIGN! ♡
SHE'S SO BEAU-TIFUL! ♡
...
BUT DON'T YOU THINK...
...REIRA SEEMS REALLY FAKE WHEN YOU SEE HER ON TV? IT'S ANNOYING.
Ah Ha Ha Ha!
NO. SHE. DOESN'T.
SHE PROB-ABLY DOES THINK THAT.
I LIKE NANA BETTER.
SHE'S COOL, BUT SHE'S A NATURAL.
SHE'S GOT THAT DO-OR-DIE QUALITY WHEN SHE SINGS.
IT STABS YOU IN THE HEART.
YEAH... I CAN SEE THAT.
TOTALLY!
I CAN'T WAIT FOR THEIR NEW ALBUM. ♡
I'LL BUY IT FOR SURE.
blah
blah

BUT TAKUMI SEEMED TOTALLY UNFAZED AND ACTUALLY CONTENT...
...AS IF HE'D JUST FINISHED SOME BIG PROJECT.
...KNOCKING TRAPNEST DOWN A NOTCH TO NUMBER TWO.
BLAST'S SINGLE DEBUTED AT NUMBER ONE IN THE VERY FIRST WEEK, WITH A RECORD-BREAKING NUMBER OF CDS SOLD..

ding don——g


freak
HELLO?

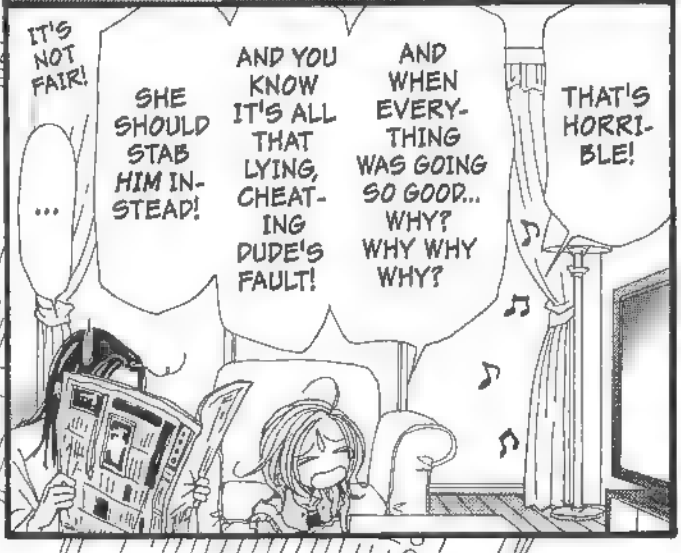

SHIIING
GASP
I'VE COME TO TAKE WHAT'S MINE!
YOU BETTER STAY AWAY FROM MY MAN.


BA BA BA — A♪

BUT SUMIKA MORISHITA (AGE 24) IS SO BEAUTI-FUL.♡
I THINK SHE'S WAY BETTER THAN MAMI SAKAGUCHI.
SHE'S TOTALLY BELIEV-ABLE!

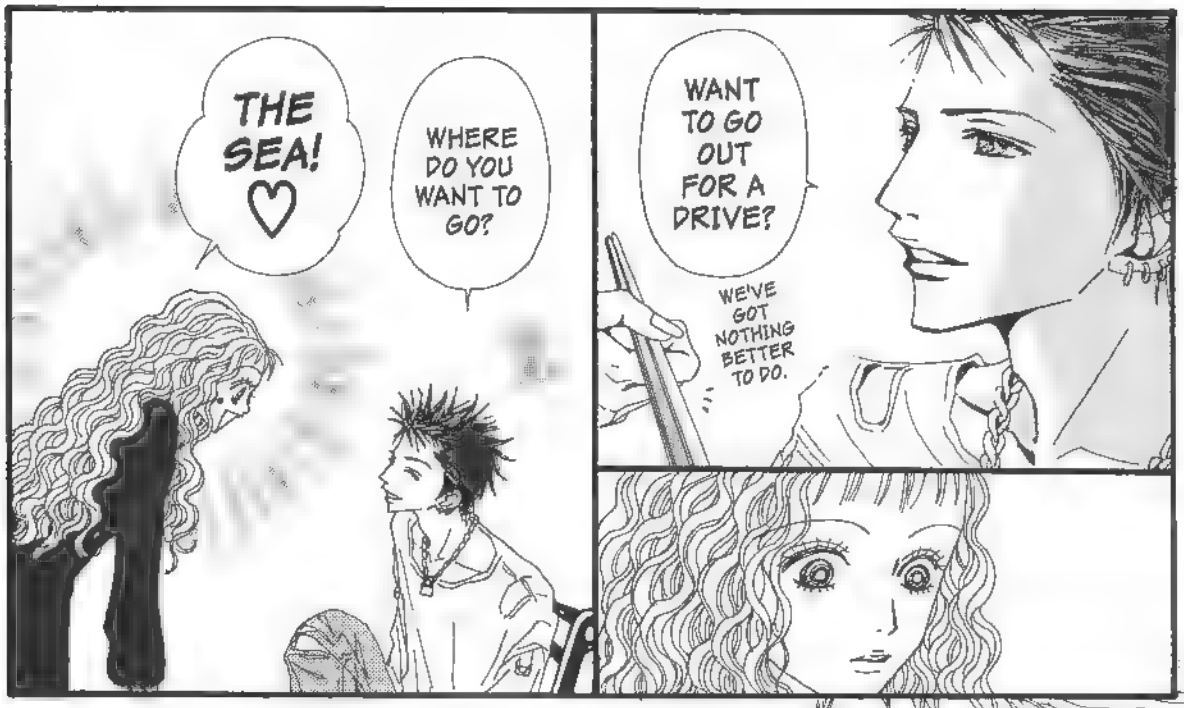
BA BA BA — A♫
To be continued...

I DON'T REMEM-BER.
HMMM, I DON'T KNOW.
HAVE YOU EVER MET HER?
I WASN'T PAYING ATTEN-TION.
YOU THINK ?
DOESN'T SHE REMIND YOU OF REIRA?


IT'S NOT FAIR!
...
SHE SHOULD STAB HIM IN-STEAD!
AND YOU KNOW IT'S ALL THAT LYING, CHEAT-ING DUDE'S FAULT!
AND WHEN EVERY-THING WAS GOING SO GOOD... WHY? WHY WHY WHY?
THAT'S HORRI-BLE!

NO! WHY WOULD SHE?
REALLY?
I DON'T MEAN HER LOOKS NECESSARILY, BUT HER BODY AND FACIAL EXPRESSIONS.
WAIT, LOOK AGAIN.
whirrr
HEY, WHY DON'T YOU GO OUT AND DO SOMETHING INSTEAD OF SITTING HERE ALL DAY WATCHING THE SOAPS YOU TAPED?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO STAY HERE 'CAUSE OF ME.
NO ...
IT'S RARE FOR YOU TO BE HOME AND RELAXED. I'M HAPPY RIGHT HERE.
I'M JUST GOING TO CHILL HERE WITH YOU. ♡
I'M SORRY...
...THAT I CAN'T TAKE YOU OUT ANYWHERE.
BUT HERE AT HOME IS WHERE I WANT TO BE MOST.
I WANT OUR HOUSE TO BE A HOME.
17 Issue 14 November 10, 2001
NOVEMBER 10TH...
THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OUR WEDDING DAY.

TAKUMI COULD HAVE JUST WORKED ALL DAY IF HE WANTED TO...
...BUT HE STAYED AT HOME IN SHIRO-GANE...
...AND I APPRE-CIATED HIS CONSID-ERATION.
HELLO! ♡
SERI-ZAWA DELIVERY SERVICE! ♡
I TRIED TAKING A WALK FROM MY PLACE TO THE TRAIN STATION TO RELAX...
...BUT IT WAS LOUD AND CROWDED AND I GOT EVEN MORE DEPRESSED, SO I TOOK A CAB.
I HAVE TO GET MY DRIVER'S LICENSE.



D 11/10 14:03
F Asami
S Re: How are you?

I'm not okay!
Why didn't I hear from you for a whole week? I'm lonely and not eating and my boobs got small!
I'm in shock! (T∧T)

CHUG-A-CHUG-A
HOTEL TOKYO
Hakata...
Approach-ing Hakata Station...
HEY, SHIN...
WE'RE GETTING OFF HERE.
WAKE UP.
click click click
Job Listings Weekly
JUMP
ring!

I'm lonely too! I can't take it anymore! (T T) I wish I had a portal to anywhere I wanted to go. Then I could go see you right now.
JUST DRINK THIS AND GOOD LUCK! ♡
YOU'RE LYING!
COINCIDENCE! ♫
HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE ON THIS TRAIN?
blah
blah
BUZZ
Yuri
11/10 14:06
The favor of my life!
GOOD LUCK WITH WHAT?
MAMUSHI
hey
Mamushi is a sexual energy drink.
.....
Please email me as soon you find out what hotel you're staying at tonight! Don't tell anyone! PLEASE don't tell anyone!

ring!
PLOPP
Myu
beep

KNOCK KNOCK
CREAK
YEAH?
IT'S ME.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE YURI IS!

WHO ARE YOU?
I'M MAI TSUZUKI.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
NEW TALENT ?
NO, A NEW EM-PLOYEE.
BUT SHE'LL BE LIVING HERE TOO.
WHAT ?!

WHY ARE YOU PUTTING STAFF IN THE DORMS FOR TALENT?
IT'S ALL RIGHT. THERE'RE A LOT OF EMPTY ROOMS.
DON'T BE MEAN.
YOU'RE SO UPTIGHT, LIKE A SISTER-IN-LAW.
I'M SORRY ...
I'LL LEAVE AS SOON AS I FIND A PLACE TO LIVE.
SUGIMURA, IS THIS ANOTHER RUNAWAY YOU PICKED UP?
GIVE ME A BREAK.
WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO MAKE HER DO?
...
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
NOW THAT BLAST IS SO POPULAR, GIN NEEDS SOME EXTRA HELP MANAGING.
WE'LL HAVE HER DO SOME PERSONAL ASSISTANCE WHEN THEY GET BACK FROM TOUR.
OKAY, WELL THAT'S THAT. TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.
I DON'T GOT TIME TO BABY-SIT...
BUT YOU GOT A LOT OF FREE TIME, RIGHT?
slide
BABY SIT?
...

HOLD ON A SEC...
I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND THE NEIGH-BORHOOD.
WHAT ?
NO REALLY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
I'M 20!
THE PRESIDENT TOLD YOU TO SAY THAT, DIDN'T HE?
HOW OLD ARE YOU REALLY?
SIGH
UM... 17.
IT'S NOT SAFE AROUND HERE.
THERE'RE CERTAIN STREETS YOU SHOULDN'T WALK DOWN ALONE. THERE'RE SHOPS YOU PROBABLY SHOULDN'T GO INTO.
YOU DON'T WANT SOMETHING BAD TO HAPPEN, DO YOU?
Vroom...

ALL I SEE ARE MOUNTAINS
SO WHERE ARE WE GOING?
WOW, THERE'S ALMOST NO TRAFFIC OUT HERE.
Pocky
TO THE END OF THE EARTH. ♡
Vroo——m
REN AND REIRA?
REALLY?
YEAH ...
I WONDER WHERE THEY'RE GOING ALL BY THEMSELVES? HIS LADY'S ON TOUR...
LOOKS ROMANTIC ♥
VERY INTER-ESTING.
TAIL THEM TO WHER-EVER THEY GO!

KSSSH!!
WHO'S THE RAIN LADY?
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO RAIN EVERY-WHERE WE GO?!
GOD ...
ALL RIGHT! LET'S DRINK SOME SHOCHU!
PLEASE, NOT TODAY.
MY BODY ALREADY FEELS TOTALLY PICKLED.
ARE WE REALLY IN KYUSHU?
IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT.
LET'S DO SOME-THING KYUSHU-ISH.
WELL, TOMORROW IT'LL BE SNOWING IN SAPPORO.
AND IT'S ALREADY SNOW SEASON IN HOKKAIDO.
RAIN LIKE THIS EVERY DAY BUMS ME OUT.
IS IT ME?!
YOU'RE THE ONLY LADY IN OUR BAND.

WHAT A WIMP.
YOU RICH BOYS ARE ALL—
I'LL DRINK WITH YOU, NANA. ♡
YASU ?
GOOD NIGHT.
WHATEVER!
GIN, LET'S ALL HAVE A DRINK TO-GETHER! ♡
REALLY?
HOW COULD I SAY NO TO YOU?
D 11/10 23:14
F Asami
S Welcome home♡
NOBU?
UH... YEAH ?
The door to room 2202 will take you anywhere! I'm waiting.♡

IS HER NAME MARINA?
THAT'S WHY SHE'S SO SLIPPERY?
YOU KNOW THE GIRL WHO GOT YOUR SECOND BUTTON?
IT'S MARIKA!
No!
I'm NOT sneaking around with groupies like you!
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU. COME IN.
23:15
WHAT?
CAN WE TALK TOMOR-ROW?
WAIT!
THEN I CAN'T LET YOU GO YET!
I'M GOING TO DRINK THE MAMUSHI AND GET LUCKY.
I'M LIVING FOR LOVE AFTER ALL.
LOOK, DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL. JUST LET ME GO DO MY THING.♡
NOW I KNOW YOUR SORE SPOT.
.....
ASAMI CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO SEE ME.
I THOUGHT ASAMI WAS...
WHAT?

MISSING?!
WELL I GUESS NOW WE KNOW WHERE SHE IS.
INTERESTING.
...
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
IF I HAD TOLD YOU, YOU WOULD'VE FREAKED OUT AND WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PLAY.
BUT IT'D BEEN A WEEK, SO I GOT WORRIED.
STILL ...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY ASAMI DIDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING!
SHE'S NOT THE MOST PRIVATE OR TACTFUL PERSON.
OH...
GOD, I REALLY DON'T GET WOMEN.
AM I THAT STUPID?
HEY, I DON'T GET IT EITHER.
I GUESS EVERY TIME YURI TALKED ABOUT WANTING TO QUIT HER JOB, HER BOYFRIENDS RAN AWAY...
SO SHE PROBABLY WAS AFRAID YOU'D DO THAT TOO.

WHAT THE HELL...
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO UNDER-STAND.
MAYBE THEY WERE AFTER HER PORN MONEY...
I DON'T KNOW.
OR WERE SCARED OF THE WRATH OF SHIKAI.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
I DON'T GET THOSE GUYS EITHER.
WHY'D THEY RUN AWAY?
WHAT THE ...?
SHE'S STILL GOT SIX MONTHS LEFT ON THE CON-TRACT.
YURI SIGNED A TWO-YEAR PORN VIDEO CONTRACT WITH SHIKAI LAST SPRING, RIGHT WHEN SHE STARTED GETTING BIG.
SHE PROBABLY SIGNED IT 'CAUSE IT WAS BIG MONEY...
BUT ACCORDING TO GIN, IF SHE QUITS NOW, SHE'LL OWE THEM TWICE THAT AMOUNT AS A PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT.
CON-TRACT MONEY MAY SOUND NICE...
BUT IT'S A TRAP SO SHE CAN'T RUN AWAY, AND SO THEY CAN MAKE MONEY AT THE SAME TIME.
AND BECAUSE YURI GOT A BIG ADVANCE, HER PAY FOR EACH VIDEO IS SMALL COMPARED TO MOST PORN STARS.

IF SHE WANTS TO QUIT NOW, SHE HAS TO FILM A LOT OF VIDEOS TO MAKE MONEY.
THEN SHIKAI WILL MAKE EVEN MORE MONEY...
...'CAUSE THEY GET A BIG CUT FROM EACH VIDEO.
WHAT SCUM BAGS.
YEAH, BUT YURI SHOULD NEVER HAVE SIGNED A CONTRACT LIKE THAT FOR JUST A LUMP SUM.
EVER SINCE SHE GOT FAMOUS, SHE SPENDS ALL HER MONEY ON HER BOYFRIENDS, AND THEN CRAWLS BACK TO THE DORMS WHEN SHE RUNS OUT. IT'S HAPPENED A LOT.
HUH?
BUT I THOUGHT SHE'S LIVING IN THE DORMS 'CAUSE HER FANS ARE STALKING HER.
SHE'LL NEVER SAVE ANY MONEY LIKE THAT.
IT'S A VICIOUS CYCLE.

OH MAN...
WHY DOES SHE LIE WHEN SHE CAN BE CAUGHT SO EASILY?
IS SHE MAKING A FOOL OF ME?
WELL, I DON'T NECESSARILY KNOW WHY SHE MOVED BACK INTO THE DORMS THIS TIME...
AND OF COURSE SHE'S NOT GOING TO TELL YOU SHE BLEW ALL HER MONEY ON AN EX-BOY-FRIEND.
....
IT'S NOT THAT SHE'S A BAD PERSON...
BUT SHE'S EVEN MORE THOUGHT-LESS THAN HACHI.
I'M JUST WONDER-ING IF YOU CAN REALLY HANDLE IT.
HOW MUCH IS THE BREACH-OF-CONTRACT PENALTY?
HER CONTRACT IS FOR 20 MILLION...
SO SHE'D OWE 40 MILLION.

WELL, YURI MUST'VE BEEN QUITE AN EXCEPTION TOO.
GAIA MADE QUITE AN EXCEPTION WITH THE ADVANCE THEY GAVE US.
SO BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT WE GOT.
REALLY?
THAT'S WAY MORE THAN THE KIND OF MONEY WE DEAL IN.
WHAT THE HELL?!
I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE NEAR THAT!
YEAH, BUT...
SO WHY WOULD GAIA GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO GIVE A BAND SIGNING MONEY?
IF YOU THINK GOING MAJOR LABEL WILL MAKE YOU RICH, THINK AGAIN
A LOT OF NEW ARTISTS ACTUALLY PAY TO HAVE THEIR CD RELEASED.
IT WAS ALL A BLUFF.
AND TOLD HIM WE'D TAKE OUR CD TO SOMEONE ELSE.
SO I MADE A BIG STINK TO THE FOX, WHO I THOUGHT HAD A HAND IN ALL THIS...
BUT WE DIDN'T WANT TO BE TAKEN TO THE CLEANERS BY OUR LABEL... ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE TRASHING NANA'S REPUTATION FOR PUBLICITY.
THEN THEY PANICKED, AS I EXPECTED.

I CAN'T BELIEVE ALL YOUR RISKY BIZ AND SECRET MANEUVERINGS.
YOU REALLY ARE A BAD BOY BEHIND THE SCENES.
WELL AREN'T YOU CRAFTY?
WHY SHOULD THE RECORD LABEL BE THE ONLY ONE TO MAKE MONEY?
I MILKED THE SITUATION TO GET US A GOOD CONTRACT WITH SEVERAL ADVANTAGES.
AND GAMBLING SHOULD ALWAYS BE DONE IN SECRET.
I ONLY GAMBLE WHEN I KNOW I'M GOING TO WIN.
IT ISN'T SO RISKY.
I HAVEN'T SEEN THE CONTRACT, SO I CAN'T REALLY COMMENT ...
BUT I'M NOT SURE THERE'S ANYTHING YOU CAN DO.
IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO ABOUT SHIKAI?
...
I'M SO WHAT?
WELL IT'S COOL FOR NOW.
YASU, YOU'RE SO...

DON'T BE SO HONEST. CAN'T YOU THINK OF SOME-THING?
YOU'RE AN UNLICENSED LAWYER.
WHY DON'T YOU THINK OF SOME-THING?
MOST PEOPLE WOULD SAY THAT YURI DESERVES TO BE STUCK IN THE MUD.
AND YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO'S PAR-TICIPATED IN HER IMPULSIVE BEHAVIOR.
JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HER DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN RELIEVE HER OF THE CONSE-QUENCES OF HER ACTIONS. AND IT'S ARROGANT FOR YOU TO THINK SO.
I UNDER-STAND THAT YOU WANT TO HELP HER...
...BUT DON'T ACT SO RIGHTEOUS, LIKE SHIKAI IS EVIL AND IT'S ALL THEIR FAULT.
BUT WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT A HUGE WAD LIKE 40 MILLION?
WHY IS IT ALWAYS ABOUT MONEY?
I DON'T THINK HAVING THE MONEY WOULD BE ENOUGH TO SOLVE THIS.

EVEN IF SHE QUITS, THE VIDEOS SHE'S ALREADY IN WILL NEVER GO AWAY.
IF SHE'S WITH A GUY WHO CAN'T TOLERATE THAT, HE'LL DRIVE HER INTO A CORNER.
JUST TRY TO THINK ABOUT IT, NOBU...
WHY HACHI ENDED UP CHOOSING TAKUMI.
2202

ring!
Sugimura

SMASH!!
SO SUGIMURA'S NICER THAN HE LOOKS...♡ PICKING A SWEET LITTLE GIRL UP OFF THE STREETS LIKE THAT.
REALLY...
YURI RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
HE KNEW HE COULD SELL HER FOR LOTS OF MONEY.
YEAH RIGHT.
SUGIMURA PICKED HER UP OFF THE STREETS FIVE YEARS AGO. SHE WAS WANDERING AROUND SHINJUKU LIKE A STRAY CAT.
Demon Lord
魔王
BUT SHIKAI FRONTS AS AN AGENCY, SO THE PREZ SAID LET'S HAVE HER DEBUT AS A CELEBRITY.
YEAH, HE'S DOING EXACTLY WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE HE'D DO!
...
'CAUSE SHE'S GOOD-LOOKING.

THE PRESIDENT WAS OUT OF TOUCH. THE INNOCENT TYPE OF CELEBRITY DOESN'T SELL.
BUT CELEBRITIES WEREN'T SO POPULAR AT THE TIME, AND SHE DIDN'T SELL THAT WAY.
SO WHAT DO YOU REALLY DO?
FRONTS?
WELL SO WHAT? SHE'S GOT GUTS.
SHE TRIED REALLY HARD TO MAKE PEOPLE LIKE HER, AND BEFORE YOU KNEW IT, ALL HER CLOTHES WERE OFF.
SO THEN WE HAD HER DO SEXED-UP PHOTOS IN MAGAZINES, AND THAT WORKED.
...HE WANTED TO MAKE YURI A STAR OF THOSE OLD "ROMAN PORN" FILMS.
HOW ARCHAIC.
THEN THE PRESI-DENT SAID...
I CAN SEE THE GUY GOING FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
OH, LIKE THE FILMS NIKKATSU USED TO MAKE?
BUT ACTUALLY, YURI REALLY CAN ACT. SO IN RETROSPECT, SHE PROBABLY COULD'VE DONE WELL AS A REGULAR ACTRESS TOO.
AND THAT'S HOW SHE GOT FAMOUS.
SO THEY PUT HER IN LOTS OF VIDEOS.
... THEATER PORN DOESN'T MAKE MUCH.
BUT THESE DAYS...
.....
SHIN, HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ALL THAT KIND OF STUFF?
ESPECIALLY OLD MAN STUFF.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO START.
SHE'S STILL YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL AND POPULAR.
NO WAY. NO ONE WANTS TO SEE YURI KOSAKA WITH HER CLOTHES ON.
HER POPULARITY WORKS AGAINST HER THERE.
YURI HAS TO STICK WITH PORN.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
NOT THAT I CARE ABOUT NAKED WOMEN, BUT..
SOME PEOPLE SAY YOU CAN JUST MAKE A NEW START.
BUT IT'S NOT EASY, 'CAUSE YOUR PAST IS PART OF WHO YOU ARE. IT'LL ALWAYS COME BACK TO HAUNT YOU.
I WOULD NEVER CONSIDER KNOCKING DOWN WHAT'S BEEN BUILT IN ORDER TO START OVER.
IF YOU STAND YOUR GROUND AND KEEP BUILDING, WILL IT TURN INTO YOUR IDEAL STRUCTURE SOMEDAY?
FLICK

NNN
HUH?
REIRA...
WE'RE HERE.

SLAM

splash

splash..

WHEN I DIE, SCATTER MY ASHES IN THE SEA HERE.
I KNEW IT WAS TIME FOR THE FIRST SNOWFALL OUT HERE.
LET'S ASK SOMEONE WHO'LL LIVE LONGER...
LIKE NAOKI.
SO THE FIRST ONE TO DIE GETS THEIR WISH?
OH, WHAT A GOOD IDEA. ♡
DO THE SAME THING FOR ME, TOO.

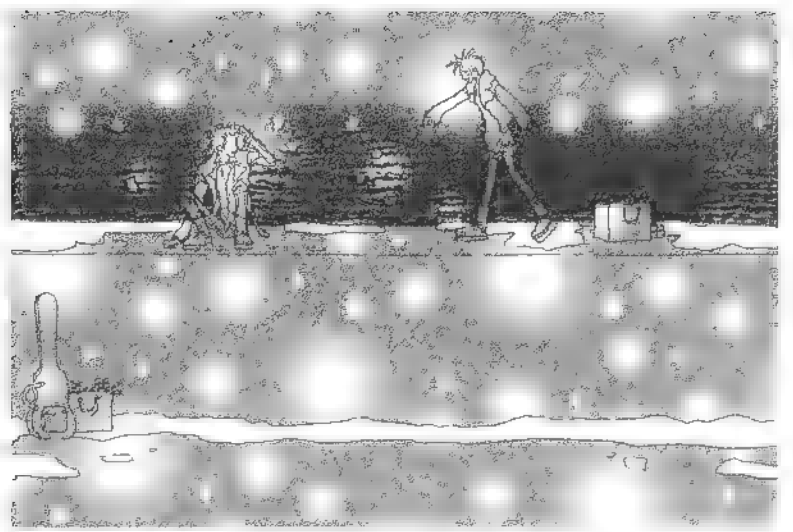
I'LL HIRE SOMEONE TO TAKE IT BACK.
I'M BEAT.
BUT YOUR CAR?
WE'VE GOT WORK TOMORROW AFTERNOON. SHOULD WE JUST FLY BACK IN THE MORNING?
SPEAKING OF TAKUMI, THAT REMINDS ME... WHAT ABOUT BAND STUFF?
IT REALLY NEEDS NEW TIRES, SO IT'D BE DANGEROUS TO DRIVE RIGHT NOW.
EVEN IF SOMEONE KILLS HIM, HE WON'T DIE.
THEN WE SHOULD ASK TAKUMI.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO COMPLAIN ABOUT ME EVEN AFTER I'M DEAD!
YOU'RE TOTALLY RIGHT.
HE'D COMPLAIN THAT IT'D BE PUTTING HIM OUT.
HE DOESN'T CARE ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I GUESS I FELT LIKE I HAD TO.
THEN WHY DID YOU PROPOSE TO HER?
IF YOU'RE A BAD GIRL, YOUR MOMMY WILL CRY.
GO STAY WITH YOUR MOMMY.
THEN I'LL STAY WITH YOU. ♡
WELL, YOU ALMOST ARE... EVERY-THING BUT.
WE AREN'T MARRIED YET.
GUYS ARE SO SLEAZY.
YOU GOT A WIFE, SO WHAT WOULD YOU WANT WITH ME?
splash
WHAT'S IT FOR?
I DON'T REALLY GET THE MEANING OF MARRIAGE.
ARE WE?
TO DRIVE THE MOSQUI-TOES AWAY?
WHY'S THAT?
TO DRIVE YASU OUT OF NANA'S HEART.
TO GET RID OF BALDY.

crash
I'M LIKE A LITTLE BOY.
WHAT GOOD WOULD A CONTRACT ON A PIECE OF PAPER DO?
IT MAKES ME FEEL EVEN EMPTIER WHEN I TRY TO KEEP HER WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
I'D PROBABLY WANT NANA TO STOP SINGING TOO...
AND WANT HER TO ALWAYS BE BY MY SIDE AND ONLY THINK ABOUT ME.
LATELY, I JUST FEEL LIKE KILLING HER...
...SO THEN NANA WOULD BE MINE AND ONLY MINE FOREVER.

SOMEONE PLEASE KILL ME.
THERE'S SOMETHING REALLY WRONG WITH ME.
HEY
NANA

YOUR LAST WORDS...
...STILL GO BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN HOPE AND DESPAIR.
YOU WHISPERED SOFTLY, LIKE YOU WERE TALKING TO YOURSELF.
"I WANT TO GO TO THE SEA."



SID &
NANCY

THAT'S WHERE TACUMI GREW UP, TOO.
WILL I BE ABLE TO SEE THAT LAND, SCAPE GOAT?
I THOUGHT ABOUT THE PLACE WAY UP NORTH THAT NANA TALKED ABOUT...
"IT'S A TOWN BURIED IN SNOW HALF THE YEAR."
...WHILE LOOKING AT THE SNOWMAN MARK ON THE TV WEATHER MAP.

NANA

— ナナ —

[Chapter 52]

REN HONJO
NANA OSAKI

REN
and the gang
REN LOVE Miki
NO GRAFFITI
BRUTE
TAKUMI!♡
HE'S HERE!
HEY!
EEEK!
DON'T HURT ME!
HEY YOU!
THAT FACE MAKES ME WANT TO PUNCH SOMEONE!

SO, HOW WERE WE?
IT WAS AWE-SOME!
YEAH, TRAPNEST IS THE BEST EVER! ♡
YOU GUYS WERE REALLY COOL! ♡
HEY!
I THOUGHT YOU SAID WE WERE THE BEST ?!
Ahhaha!
WOW! DAMN!
REN, YOU LIVE HERE BY YOUR-SELF?!
I'M SO JEALOUS! TOTAL BACHELOR PAD!
REIRA, YOU WERE GREAT TO-NIGHT! ♡
WANT A DRINK ?
THANK YOU, ARUTO. ♡
SO WHERE'S REN?
I DON'T KNOW ...
IN THE BATH-TUB?
DON'T DRINK THAT CRAP THOSE CRAZY GUYS GIVE YOU.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT BE IN IT.
WHAT ?
HE'S TAKING A BATH?
CHANGE THE CD
TO WHAT ?
HOPE

Ah ha ha ha
WHAT'S SO SHIBUYA-KEI ABOUT YOU GUYS?!
WHAT A HICK TOWN
.....
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
COME ON,
blah
blah
REIRA?
YOU WERE GREAT TO-NIGHT, YASU. ♡

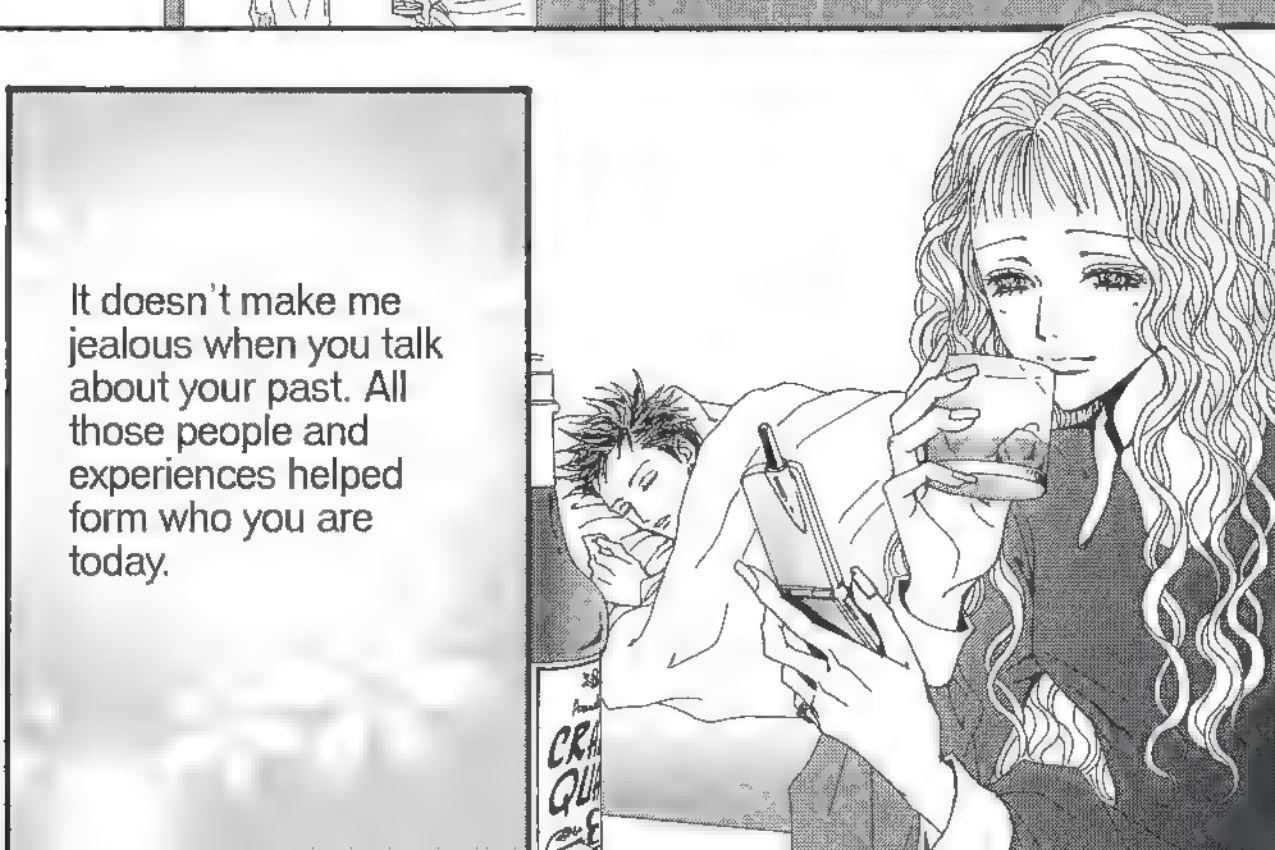
I REALLY DON'T KNOW.
WELL, FOR THAT MATTER, WHAT AM I DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
GOTTA DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT.
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?
WHO WAS THAT GIRL?
SH!T.
WHY'D TAKUMI BRING YOU HERE?
YOU SHOULDN'T HANG AROUND IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
WHY'RE YOU SITTING THERE TALKING TO YOURSELF?
hee hee
BUT ISN'T THERE EVEN ANYONE YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON?
I DON'T HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND.
JUST A FAN? BUT NOT YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?
SHE'S A FAN FROM WAY BACK.
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?
SO REALLY, WHO WAS THAT BLONDE CHICK?
WHOEVER SEES THIS EITHER DROWNS IN THE SEA OR BECOMES MY PARTNER IN CRIME.
IT'S COOL, MAN.
BUT YOU'RE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL. WHY DO YOU DRINK HARD STUFF LIKE THAT?!
THAT'S OLD MAN STUFF
I DRINK THE GOOD STUFF. ON THE ROCKS.
BOUR-BON.
WHAT'S THAT?
WHICH WILL IT BE FOR YOU?
PARTNER IN CRIME! ♡
....
...
glug glug

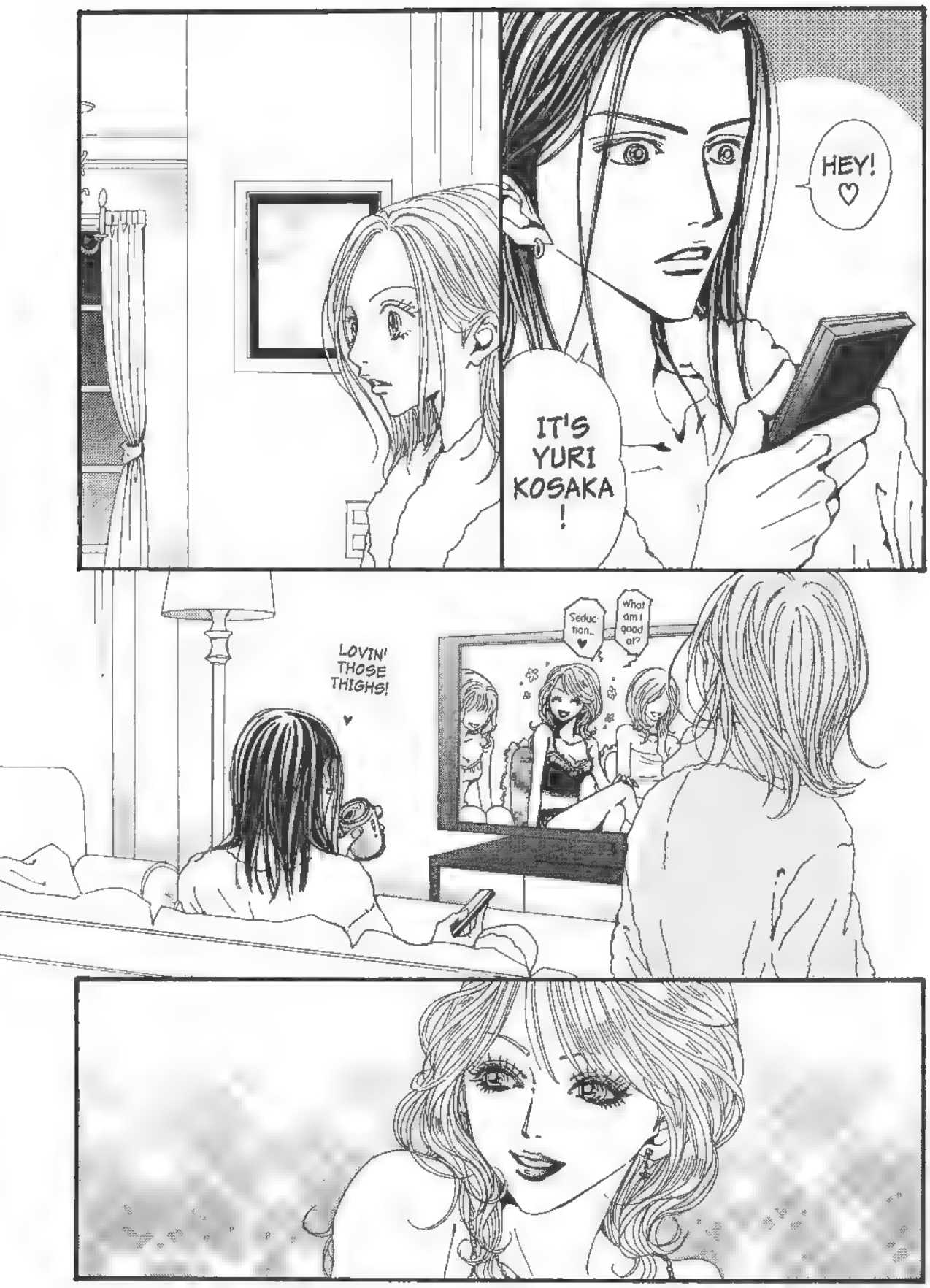
stare
.....
DID YOU SLIP ANYTHING IN IT, MASTER?
ATSUSHI TOLD ME NOT TO DRINK ANYONE'S POISON HERE.
clink
shake shake
AAH!
BUT IT IS AN APHRO-DISIAC.
NOPE.

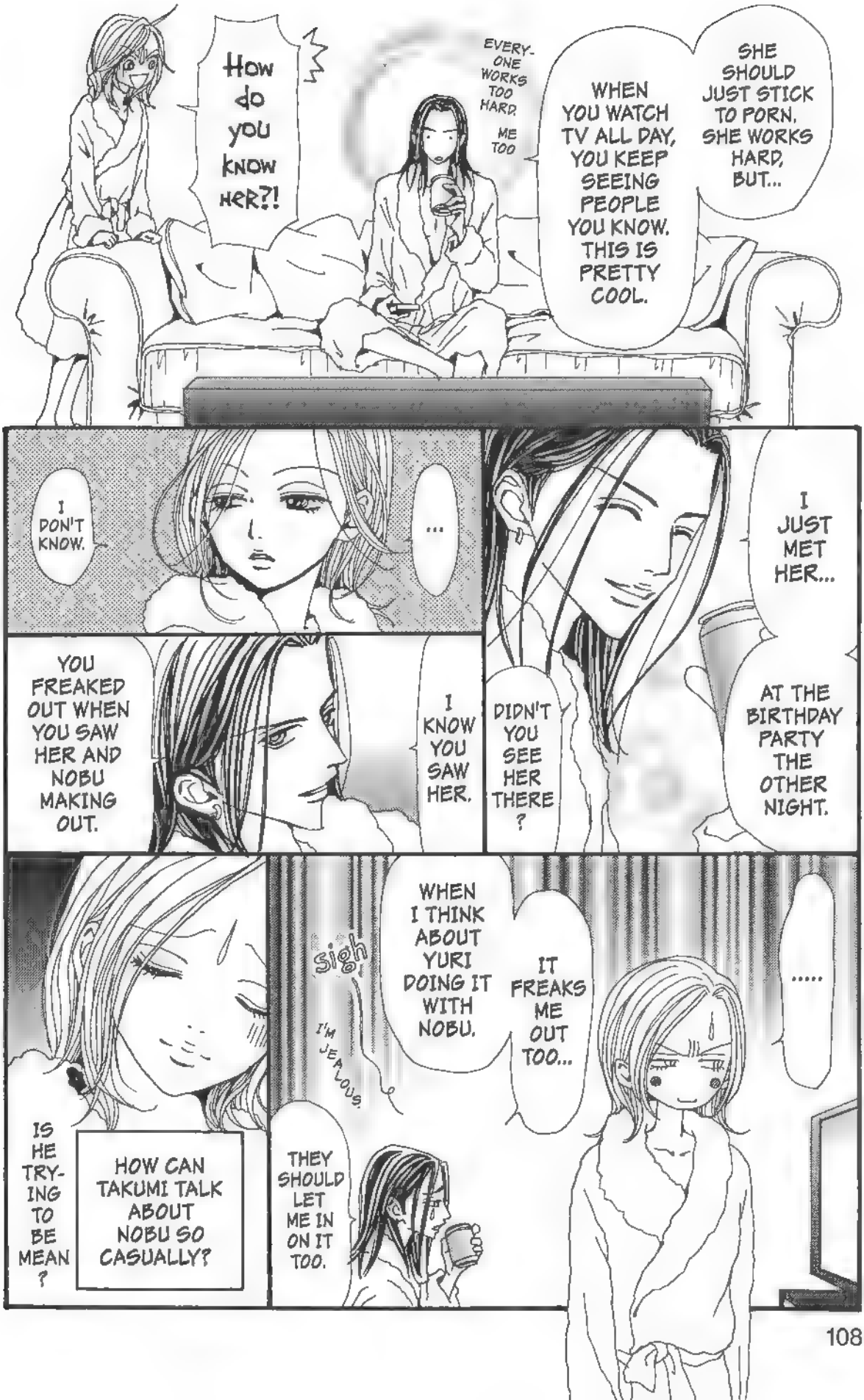
IN THE SPRING OF THAT YEAR, KURT, WHO I LOVED, DIED UNEXPECTEDLY...
...AND MY FIRST LOVE DIDN'T BITE, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I CHASED HIM...
SO I JUST WALLOWED IN MY MISERY.
THEY WERE BLASTING NIRVANA ON THE RADIO.
I VOWED TO HONOR AND CHERISH IT.
BUT IN THE END, I LOST THAT TOO.
BUT I THEN I REALIZED I HAD A REASON TO BE HAPPY.
WHY DON'T PEOPLE STICK AROUND?
BUT MOVING ON ALLOWS US TO PROGRESS IN LIFE.
HEY REN, WHEN DID YOU FIRST KISS A GIRL?
KINDER-GARTEN?
ZZZ

...
SID & NANCY
LOVE KILLS
snore snore snore
We had the day off and went to Ren's hometown. We're drinking all night at Ren's place here. This place brings back so many old memories. Please forgive me for setting you aside for a sec and talking about my old flames. ♡ I went out with my first boyfriend when I was the same age as you are now.
Plunk
LAYLA
11/11 02:34
It's snowing
WHAP
I'M GONNA DIE!
My smokes are all gone!
...

ARE YOU LEAVING TOO?
I'M JUST GOING TO GO BUY SOME CIGA-RETTES.
GOOD BOY!
...
HE WENT BACK TO HIS ROOM.
WAIT, WHERE'S GINPEI?
I JUST TOLD YOU, HE WENT BACK TO HIS ROOM.
HEY, WHERE'S GINPEI?
It looks like I'll be up drinking all night too, at Nana's. Tell Ren that when he's not around, Nana gets lonely and drives me crazy.


It doesn't make me jealous when you talk about your past. All those people and experiences helped form who you are today.


HEY!
♡
IT'S YURI KOSAKA !
LOVIN' THOSE THIGHS!
♥
Seduction..
♥
What am I good at?


How do you know her?!
EVERY-ONE WORKS TOO HARD.
ME TOO
WHEN YOU WATCH TV ALL DAY, YOU KEEP SEEING PEOPLE YOU KNOW. THIS IS PRETTY COOL.
SHE SHOULD JUST STICK TO PORN. SHE WORKS HARD, BUT...
I DON'T KNOW.
...
I JUST MET HER...
AT THE BIRTHDAY PARTY THE OTHER NIGHT.
DIDN'T YOU SEE HER THERE?
YOU FREAKED OUT WHEN YOU SAW HER AND NOBU MAKING OUT.
I KNOW YOU SAW HER.
.....
IT FREAKS ME OUT TOO...
WHEN I THINK ABOUT YURI DOING IT WITH NOBU.
sigh
I'M JEALOUS.
THEY SHOULD LET ME IN ON IT TOO.
IS HE TRY-ING TO BE MEAN?
HOW CAN TAKUMI TALK ABOUT NOBU SO CASUALLY?

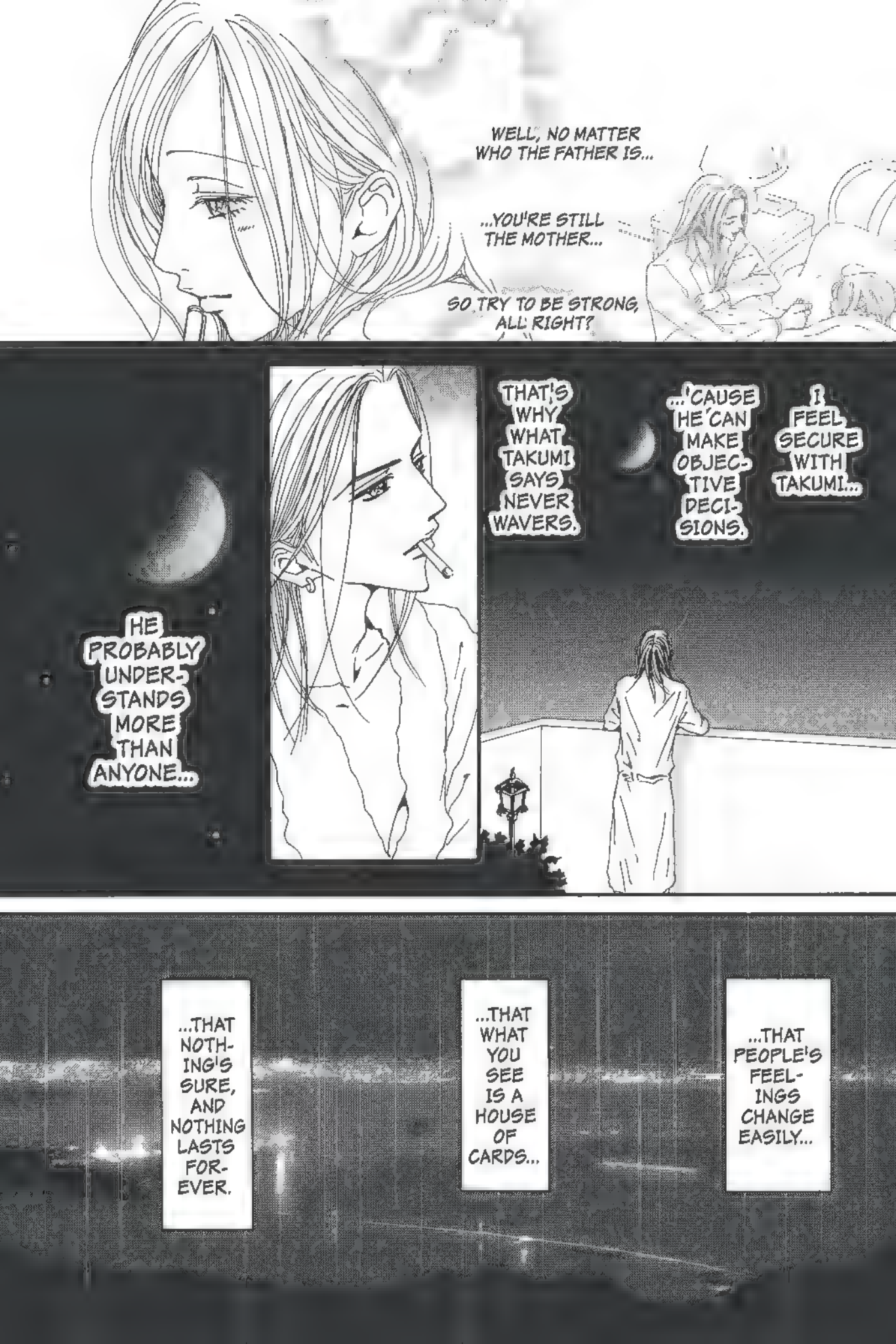
OH, BUT THEN WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TELL WHOSE BABY IT WAS AGAIN.
MAYBE WE SHOULD ALL LIVE TOGETHER.
HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
TAKUMI!
IT'S NOT FUNNY. DON'T TALK ABOUT IT LIKE THAT.
ACTUALLY, I WASN'T KIDDING.
I WANT TO DO IT WITH YURI.
SHUT UP! THE BABY MIGHT HEAR YOU!
DON'T CORRUPT IT!
AS IF IT WOULD UNDERSTAND, EVEN IF IT COULD HEAR ME.
WELL I DON'T WANT YOU TALKING ABOUT NOBU EITHER!
I JUST WANT TO FORGET ABOUT HIM!
ALL RIGHT THEN ...
SO EVEN IF SACHIKO GROWS UP LOOKING MORE AND MORE LIKE NOBU EVERY DAY, WE SHOULD JUST WALK AROUND ON EGG SHELLS, GOING "OH HOW CUTE!♡," AND NOT EVER TALK ABOUT IT?
.....
THAT'D BE WEIRD.
I DON'T WANT THAT!
THEN WE HAVE TO BE ABLE TO MAKE FUN OF IT AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE SITUATION.

WELL, NO MATTER WHAT NOBU DOES OR DOESN'T HAVE TO DO WITH IT, YOU AND I CAN'T ERASE OUR OWN PAST TOGETHER.
SO YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT THE FACTS AS FACT.
SAY IT AGAIN!
DADDY ACTUALLY SAID SOMETHING MEANINGFUL FOR A CHANGE!
WAIT A MINUTE!
I JUST THINK YOU'RE—
FACTS USUALLY GET TWISTED AROUND 'CAUSE OF ASSUMPTIONS, AGENDAS, ATTITUDES AND WHATNOT.
YES IT IS.
OH, YOU MEAN ME.
HUH? DADDY?
NO, IT'S NOT THAT BIG OF A DEAL.
LET'S MAKE THAT OUR NEW MOTTO.
AND I QUOTE, "ACCEPT THE FACTS AS FACT."

IT'S CRUEL, 'CAUSE I BROKE THE BANK FOR THIS STUFF!
LIKE, I MIGHT THINK THAT THIS FACE CREAM I'M USING THINS OUT MY FACE. BUT YOU LOOK AT ME AND SAY MY FACE IS STILL ROUND.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO LOOKS AT YOU, YOUR FACE IS ROUND!
I WAS JUST SAY-ING YOU'RE MORE LIKE THAT THAN ANYONE ELSE I KNOW.
ALL RIGHT, SO YOU GET IT.
BUT YOU'RE VERY OBJECTIVE AND DETACHED ABOUT THINGS, ALMOST TOO MUCH. YOU'RE SO HARSH.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE WAS WEIRD, BUT IT'S NOT NECESSARILY A BAD THING.
I get it. ♡
NOW I TOTALLY GET IT.

...AND HE ACCEPTS ME JUST AS I AM.
BUT TAKUMI ISN'T REALLY MEAN...
THE FACTS
SO THAT'S WHY TAKUMI SEEMS MEANER THAN MOST OTHER PEOPLE.


WELL, NO MATTER WHO THE FATHER IS...
...YOU'RE STILL THE MOTHER...
SO TRY TO BE STRONG, ALL RIGHT?
I FEEL SECURE WITH TAKUMI...
...'CAUSE HE'CAN MAKE OBJEC-TIVE DECI-SIONS.
THAT'S WHY WHAT TAKUMI SAYS NEVER WAVERS.
HE PROBABLY UNDER-STANDS MORE THAN ANYONE...
...THAT PEOPLE'S FEEL-INGS CHANGE EASILY...
...THAT WHAT YOU SEE IS A HOUSE OF CARDS...
...THAT NOTH-ING'S SURE, AND NOTHING LASTS FOR-EVER.

2202
beep
beep
beep
beep beep beep
SOS
SOS
AM 02:41
STUPID...
sniff..
WHY DO I ALWAYS BREAK EVERY-THING?
IT'S BROKEN ...
ding dong

2202
JUST TRY TO THINK ABOUT IT, NOBU...
...WHY HACHI ENDED UP CHOOSING TAKUMI.
creak
HELLO, SWEET-HEART! ♡

WHAT KIND OF JOINT IS THIS?
SLAM
WHAT KIND DO YOU WANT IT TO BE?
...
IMAGE CLUB? BATHOUSE? STRIP-TEASE?
...
OR AN S&M CLUB?
flip
WERE YOU JUST DRINKING HERE ALONE?
YOU HAVE BOOZE BREATH.
THEN JUST BE MEAN TO ME! ♡
sigh
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT?
NANA IS ALL THE DOMINATRIX I NEED IN MY LIFE.
I DON'T WANT THAT!
I GOT US A DELUXE SUITE! ♡
WHY'RE YOU BLOWING CASH AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
YOU'RE NUTS, MAN!
Eeek! ♥
Eeek! ♥
HOW'RE YOU GOING TO SAVE UP AND QUIT YOUR JOB LIKE THIS?!
I WAS JUST THINK-ING ABOUT ...
SORRY.
YOU BETTER STAY AWAY FROM OTHER GIRLS OR I'LL GIVE YOU AN ENEMA!
I SHOULD ASK WHAT YOU WERE DOING!
WELL, IF YOU'D GOTTEN HERE EARLIER!
It's HUGE!
What's up with this room?!

I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE TRYING TO QUIT YOUR JOB.
....
I ACTUALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE REALLY INTO IT.
WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?
...FOR BEING INCOM-MUNICADO FOR A WHOLE WEEK.
HEY, I'M SORRY ...
AT A HOTEL IN TOKYO...
UH ...
BUT I'M HAPPY YOU CAME HERE TO SEE ME.
I REALLY MISSED YOU.
I'M ONLY LIVIN' LARGE TODAY. SPECIAL DELIVERY JUST FOR YOU! ♡
OH!
BUT A CHEAP ONE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT.

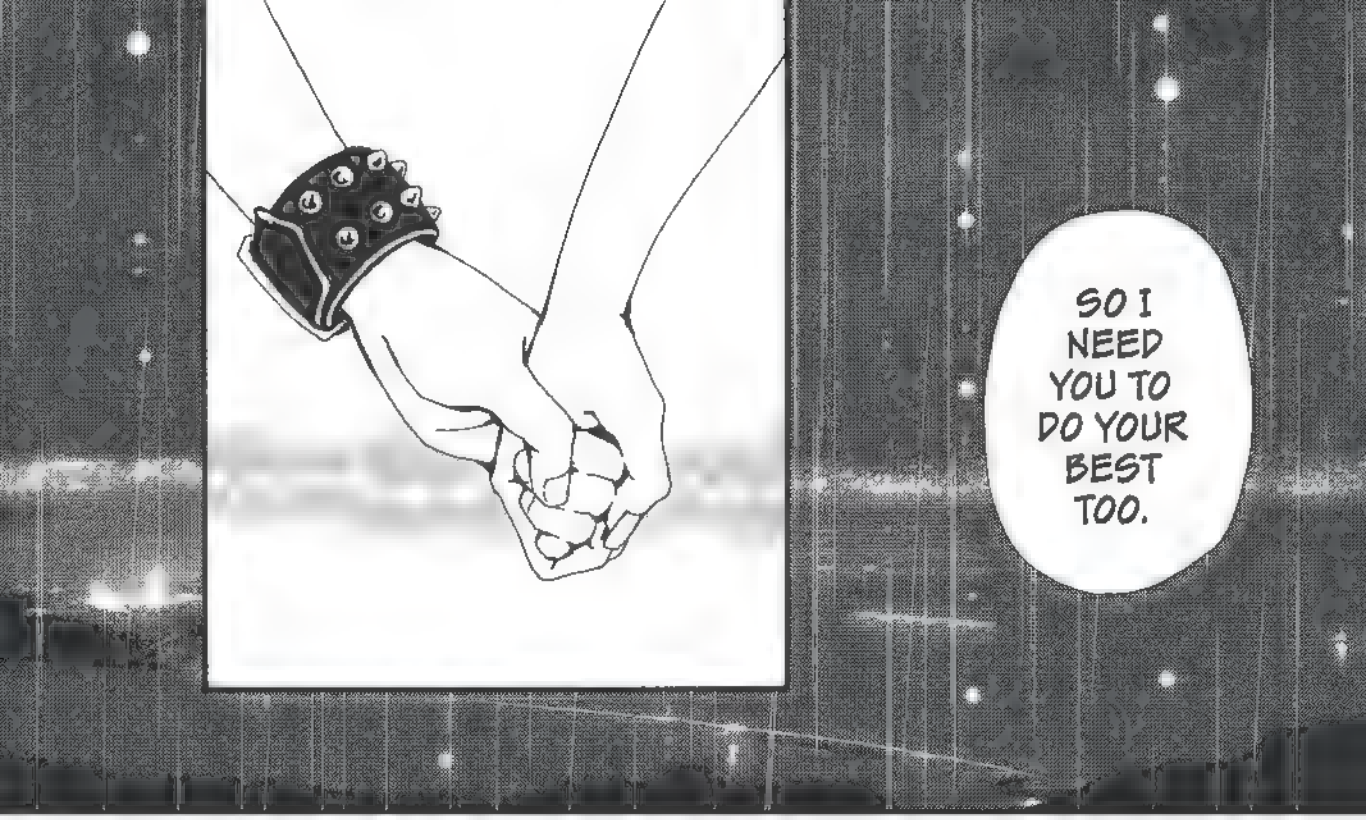
ASAMI...

SO MIU'S COMING HERE TO PICK YOU UP IN THE MORNING.
PLEASE GO BACK TO THE DORMS WITH HER...
...SINCE I CAN'T TAKE YOU BACK WHILE I'M ON TOUR.
YOU TOLD HER I'M HERE ?!
YEAH, BUT I DIDN'T TELL THE AGENCY.
IT'S BETTER YOU GO BACK ON YOUR OWN AND APOLOGIZE, INSTEAD OF MAKING THEM HUNT YOU DOWN.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. MIU WILL BE WITH YOU.
SO WHY MIU?!
Are you hooking up with her?!
NO! IT'S 'CAUSE I DON'T KNOW ANY OTHER FRIENDS OF YOURS.
AND ALSO, MIU...
SLAP
MIU'S JUST SHIKAI'S LITTLE PET KITTY! SHE'S NOT MY FRIEND!
DON'T GET UP IN MY BUSI-NESS WHEN I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO!

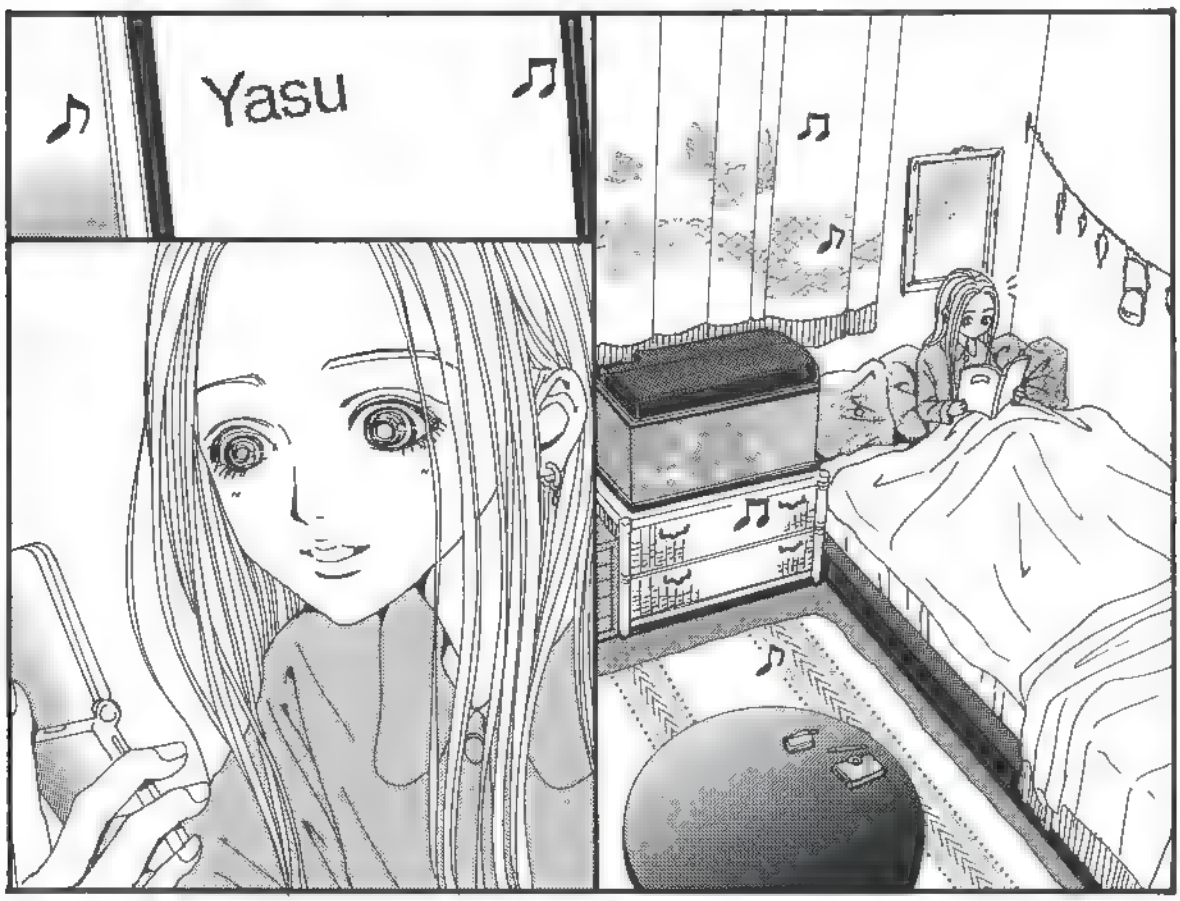
SO WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO?! YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT?!
GOD!
OWWWWWWW!
SO NOW YOU OWE THEM SIX MORE MONTHS OF WORK. THAT'S WHAT YOUR CONTRACT SAYS.
...
20 MILLION YEN!
...AND YOU'VE ALREADY BLOWN IT ALL.
YOU GOT YOUR BIG ADVANCE FROM SHIKAI...
DON'T JUST RUN AWAY. YOU'RE MAKING IT WAY HARDER THAN IT HAS TO BE.
THEN JUST FULFILL THAT CON-TRACT.
I KNOW, I KNOW!

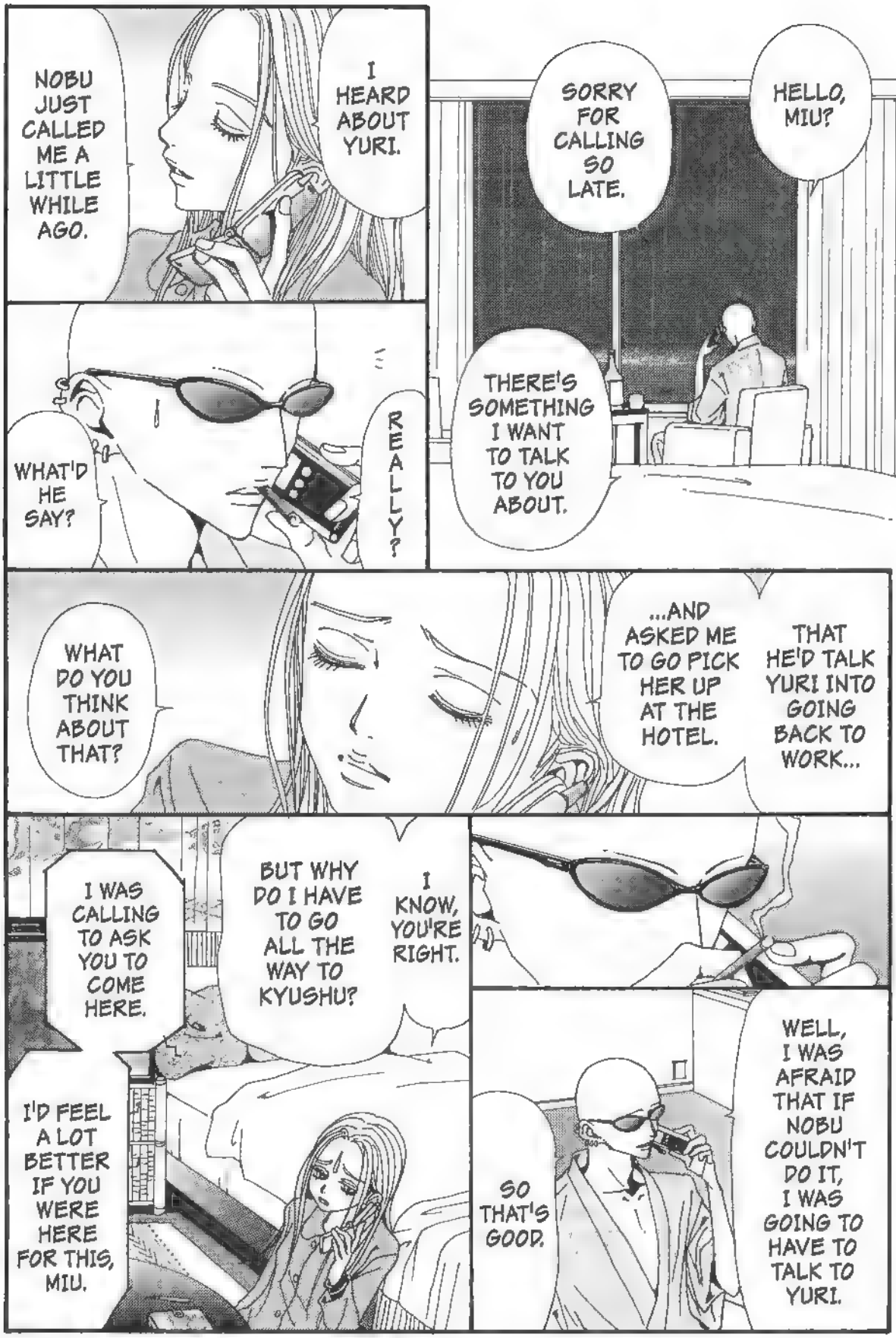
SO YOU REALLY DON'T MIND ME WORKING IN THE PORN BIZ?!
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
THAT'S IT. GET OUT.
I SAID GET OUT!
WHAT'S GOING TO BE SOLVED BY YOUR KICK-ING ME OUT OF HERE?

IF YOU'RE GOING BACK TO WORK, DON'T YOU THINK IT'LL BE BETTER IF WE STAY TOGETHER?
ARE YOU GOING TO BREAK UP WITH ME AND STILL GO BACK TO WORK?
...BUT I CAN BE THERE AND HELP YURI KOSAKA DO HER BEST FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.
IT REALLY FRUSTRATES ME THAT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS...
I CAN'T FIX THIS FOR YOU.
...I'LL DO MY BEST TO SUPPORT YOU, ASAMI...
AFTER THAT...

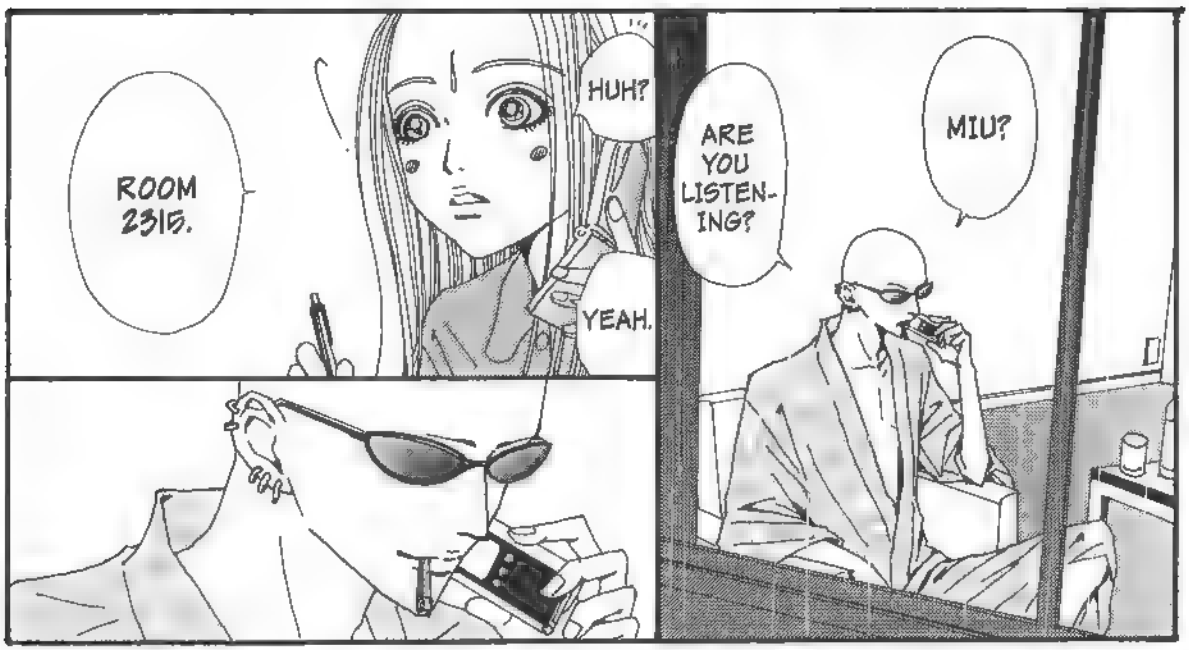


ring——————♫




I HEARD ABOUT YURI.
NOBU JUST CALLED ME A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
REALLY?
WHAT'D HE SAY?
HELLO, MIU?
SORRY FOR CALLING SO LATE.
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
THAT HE'D TALK YURI INTO GOING BACK TO WORK...
...AND ASKED ME TO GO PICK HER UP AT THE HOTEL.
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?
I KNOW, YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT WHY DO I HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY TO KYUSHU?
I WAS CALLING TO ASK YOU TO COME HERE.
I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER IF YOU WERE HERE FOR THIS, MIU.
WELL, I WAS AFRAID THAT IF NOBU COULDN'T DO IT, I WAS GOING TO HAVE TO TALK TO YURI.
SO THAT'S GOOD.

....
Sigh
OKAY, I'LL TAKE THE FIRST FLIGHT IN THE MORNING...
SO I'LL GET TO THE HOTEL AROUND NINE O'CLOCK.
GOOD.
JUST COME UP WHEN YOU GET HERE.
ROOM 2202?
TO YURI'S ROOM?
NO, TO MINE.
YOU HAVE TO DROP BY, IF YOU'RE COMING ALL THIS WAY.
I'M IN ROOM 2315.
WE'RE CHECKING OUT OF THE HOTEL AT TEN.
I'M SURE YURI WILL BE WITH NOBU UNTIL THEN...
S FUKUOKA
2202
6:30 → 8:10
2315
SO LET'S HAVE BREAKFAST TOGETHER.
I'LL HAVE IT ALL READY.



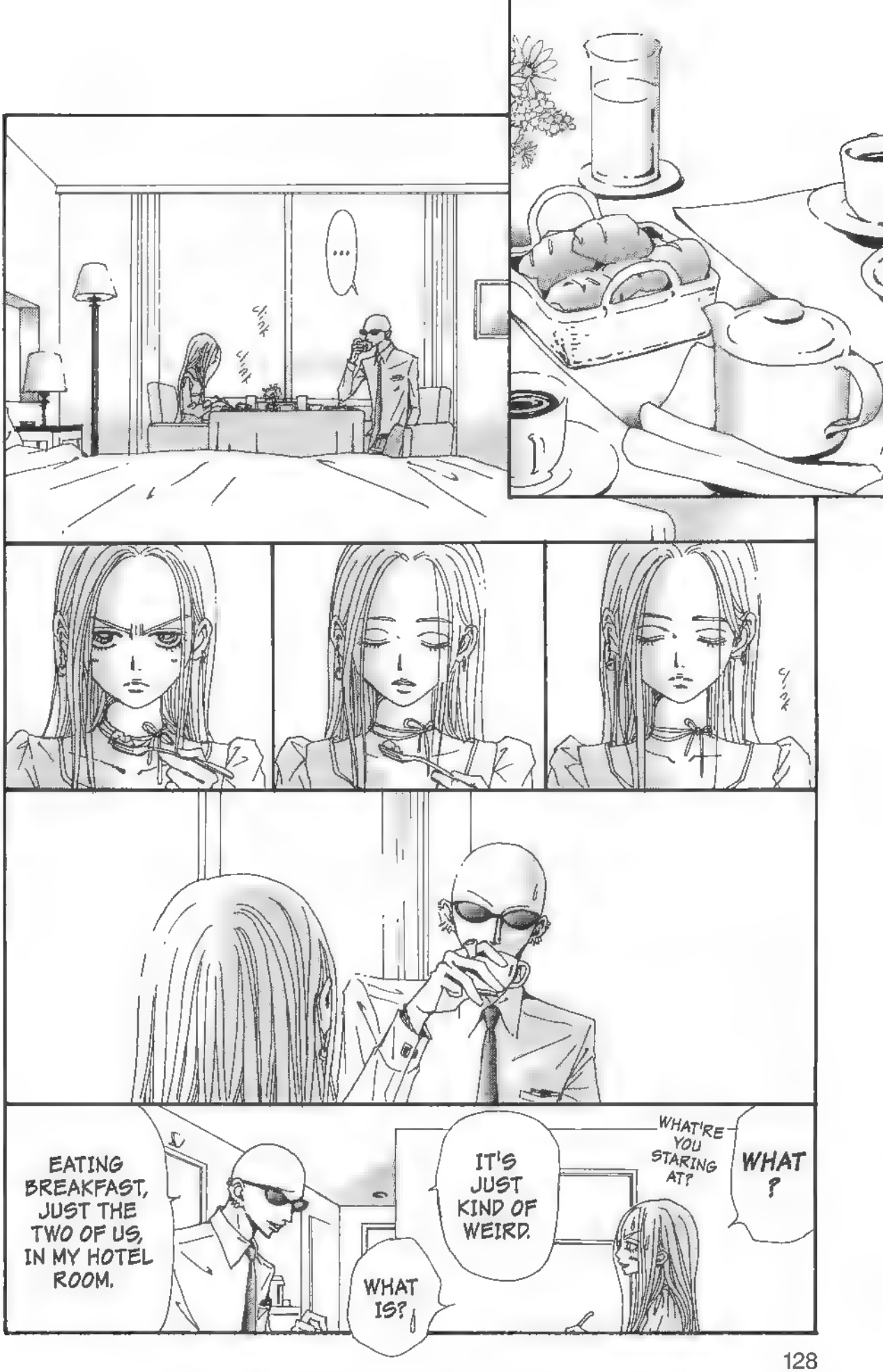
SO DON'T EAT BREAKFAST BEFORE, ALL RIGHT?

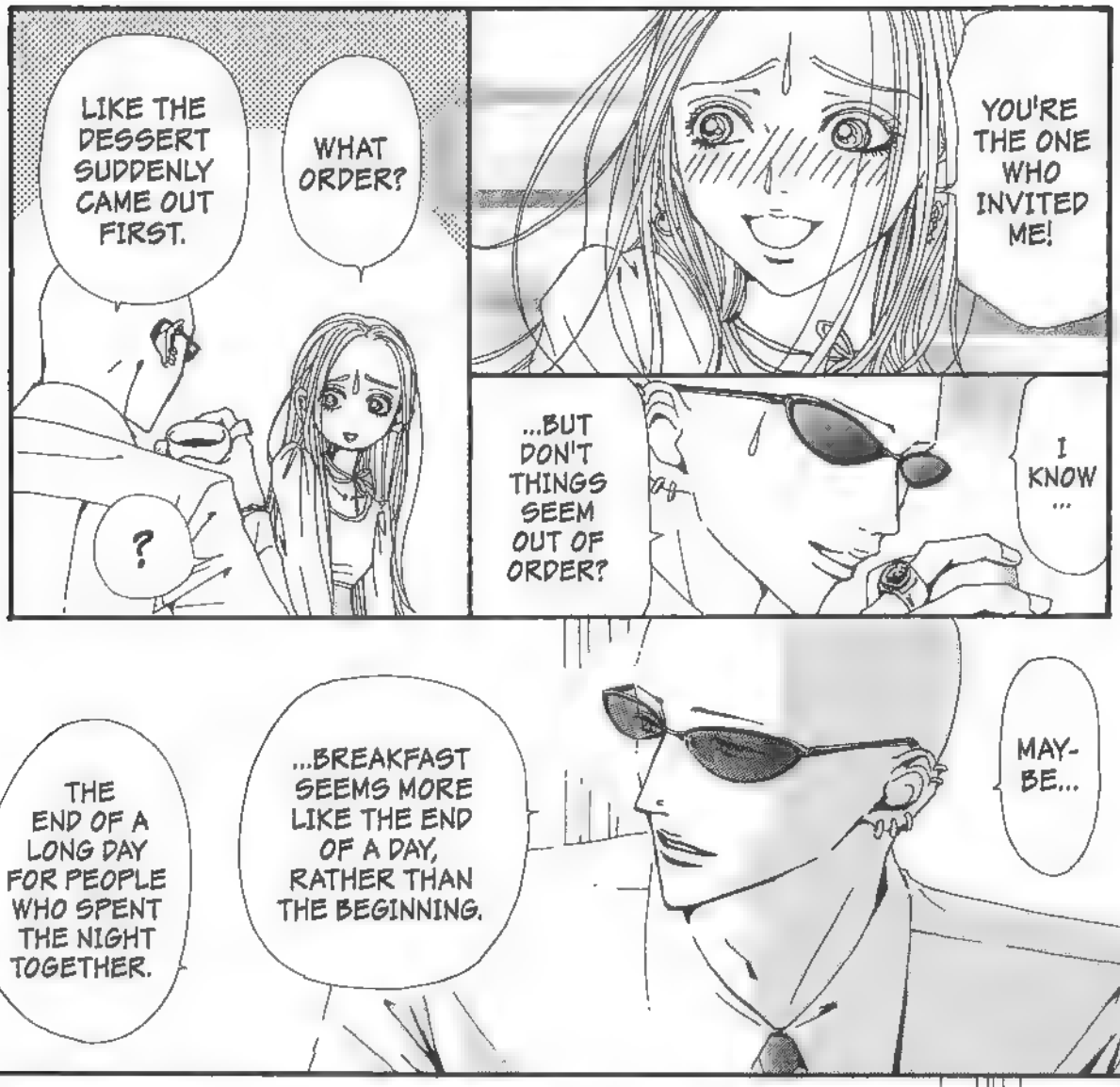
V O O O O M

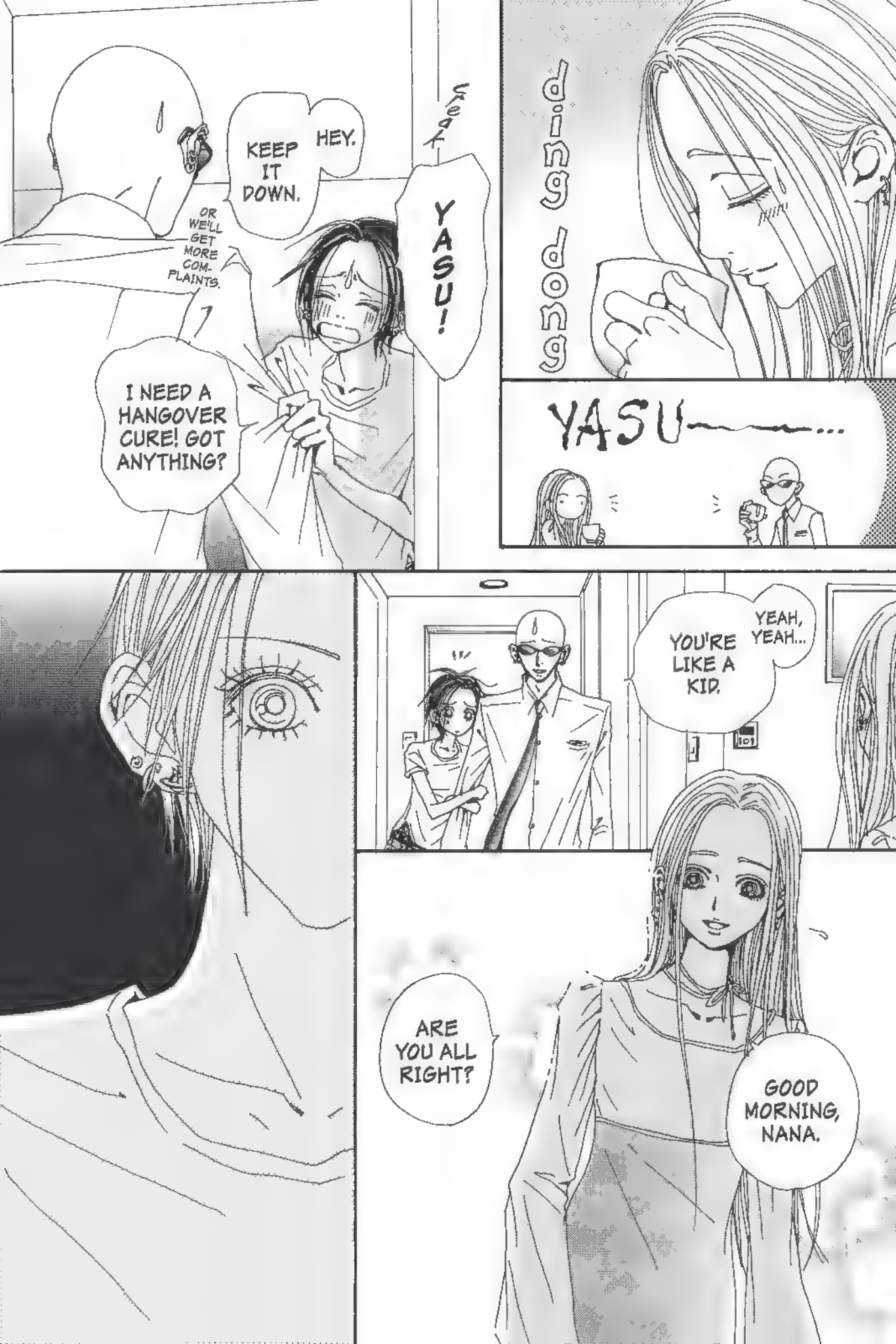
Slide
cl,ck
HOTEL S FUKUOKA
WHO'RE YOU INVITING TO THE THANK-YOU PARTY?
HEY ...

THE LEADER OF THE BAND KNOWS THAT.
IT WAS LIKE, IF IT SELLS, ANY-THING GOES.
AND 'CAUSE OF THE WAY THEY DEBUTED.
THE BAND PROBABLY DOESN'T REALIZE IT, BUT THEY LOST MOST OF THEIR OLD FANS AFTER SIGNING TO A MAJOR LABEL.
MOST OF THEIR REGULARS PROBABLY WON'T COME.

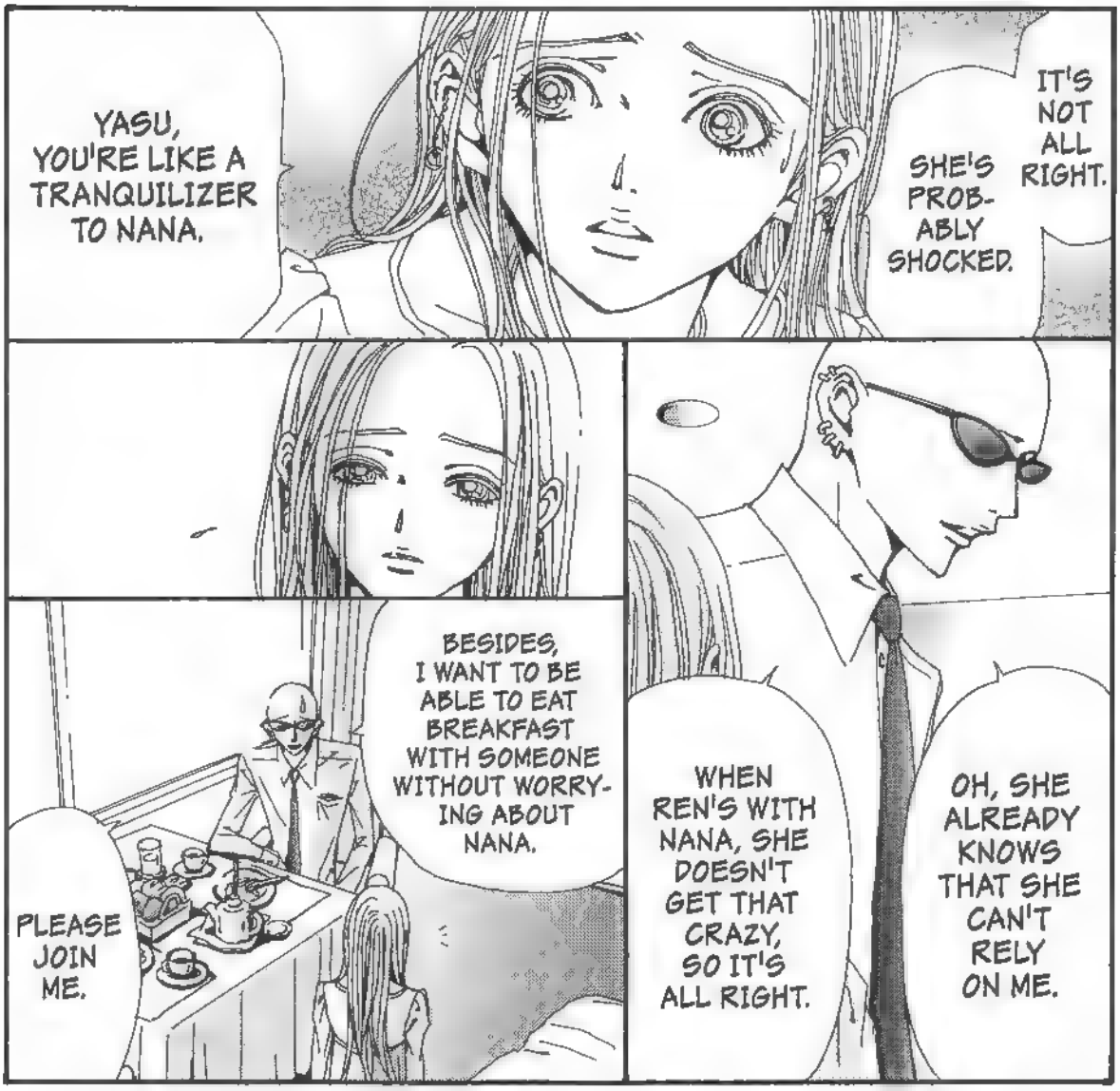
THEY DON'T NEED THEIR HOMETOWN FANS.
WE'LL MAKE UP A LIST OF DIE-HARD FANS WHO LOVE BLAST NOW.
2315
GOOD MORN-ING.

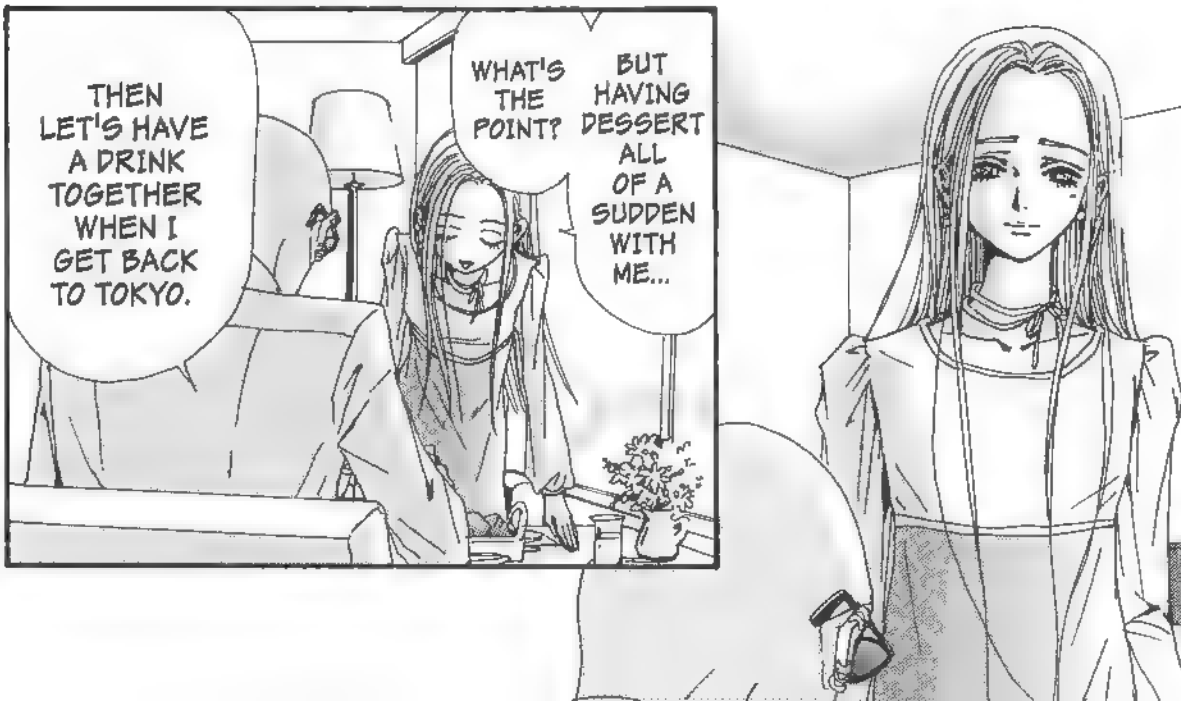

...
EATING BREAKFAST, JUST THE TWO OF US, IN MY HOTEL ROOM.
WHAT IS?
IT'S JUST KIND OF WEIRD.
WHAT'RE YOU STARING AT?
WHAT ?

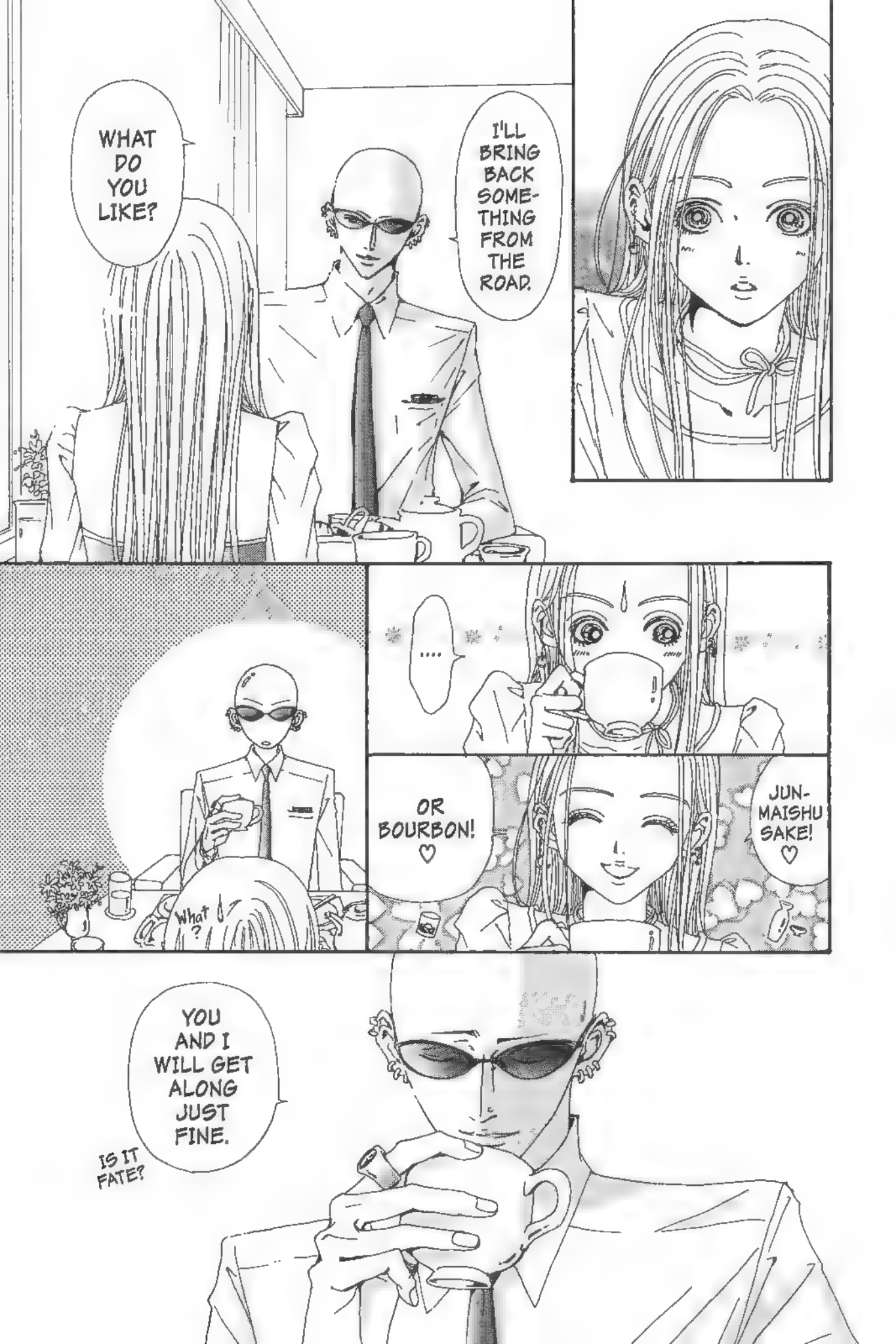

LIKE THE DESSERT SUDDENLY CAME OUT FIRST.
WHAT ORDER?
?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO INVITED ME!
...BUT DON'T THINGS SEEM OUT OF ORDER?
I KNOW ...
MAY-BE...
...BREAKFAST SEEMS MORE LIKE THE END OF A DAY, RATHER THAN THE BEGINNING.
THE END OF A LONG DAY FOR PEOPLE WHO SPENT THE NIGHT TOGETHER.
MAY-BE.
PEOPLE HAVE COFFEE AFTER AN ALL-NIGHTER.
TOTALLY.
THAT'S WHY IT FEELS WEIRD, 'CAUSE NOTHING LED UP TO IT.
BUT THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
A NEW DAY BEGINS AFTER THAT.


ding dong
YASU——…
YASU!
HEY.
KEEP IT DOWN.
OR WE'LL GET MORE COMPLAINTS.
I NEED A HANGOVER CURE! GOT ANYTHING?
YEAH, YEAH...
YOU'RE LIKE A KID.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
GOOD MORNING, NANA.

SLAM
...
DON'T WORRY, SHE'S FINE.
THIS HAPPENS EVERY DAY.
IT'S COOL.
SHE DRINKS THAT MUCH EVERY NIGHT?
THAT CAN'T BE GOOD.
NOW WHAT HAPPENED?
SHE PROBABLY MISUNDERSTOOD...
DAMN.
WHAT?
NO. SORRY.
IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST.
I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO TELL HER THAT YURI WAS MISSING.
YOU DIDN'T TELL HER I WAS COMING?
THEN I'LL GO AND EXPLAIN.
WHAT'S HER ROOM NUMBER?
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL TALK TO HER LATER.
I'M SURE GINPEI HAS MEDICINE TOO.


YASU, YOU'RE LIKE A TRANQUILIZER TO NANA.
IT'S NOT ALL RIGHT.
SHE'S PROB-ABLY SHOCKED.
BESIDES, I WANT TO BE ABLE TO EAT BREAKFAST WITH SOMEONE WITHOUT WORRY-ING ABOUT NANA.
PLEASE JOIN ME.
WHEN REN'S WITH NANA, SHE DOESN'T GET THAT CRAZY, SO IT'S ALL RIGHT.
OH, SHE ALREADY KNOWS THAT SHE CAN'T RELY ON ME.


THEN LET'S HAVE A DRINK TOGETHER WHEN I GET BACK TO TOKYO.
WHAT'S THE POINT?
BUT HAVING DESSERT ALL OF A SUDDEN WITH ME...


WHAT DO YOU LIKE?
I'LL BRING BACK SOME-THING FROM THE ROAD.
....
OR BOURBON! ♡
JUN-MAISHU SAKE! ♡
What?
YOU AND I WILL GET ALONG JUST FINE.
IS IT FATE?

honk
CRAZY
QUAIL
8

REIRA!
GOD, I HATE TAKUMI!
HE MAKES EVERY-ONE DO WHAT HE WANTS!
HE REALLY REALLY SUCKS!
REALLY?
THEN HANG OUT WITH ME.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU SHOULDN'T BE DRINK-ING!
Are you crazy?!
SHE WAS JUST HAVING ONE DRINK.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT HER HERE, ANYWAY.
SHE JUST FOLLOWED ME HERE.
DON'T GET HER DRUNK, BALDY.
YOU'RE SO MEAN!!

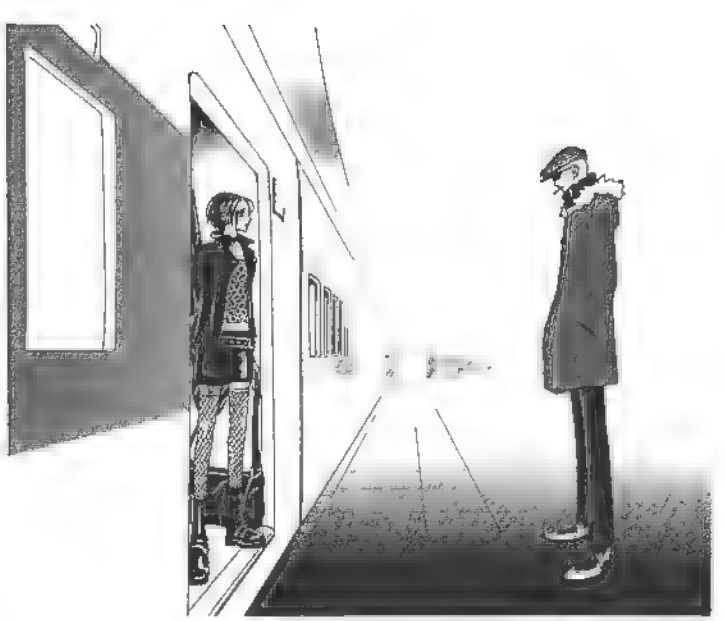
splash
I WONDER WHEN IT STOPPED SNOWING.
IT WAS SNOWING SO MUCH, BUT NOW THE MOON'S OUT.
IT'S A FULL MOON!
IF YOU THINK IT'S BAD, THEN DON'T DO IT.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
ESPECIALLY NOW THAT I'M WITH YOU.
ANOTHER ALL-NIGHTER FOR ME.
ANOTHER ?
UH OH.
IT'S ALREADY FOUR A.M.?
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT.
ARE YOU FOR REALS?
Yeah right
ARE YOU JUST MAKING FUN OF ME?
WHY WOULD I JOKE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I'M NOT LIKE TAKUMI

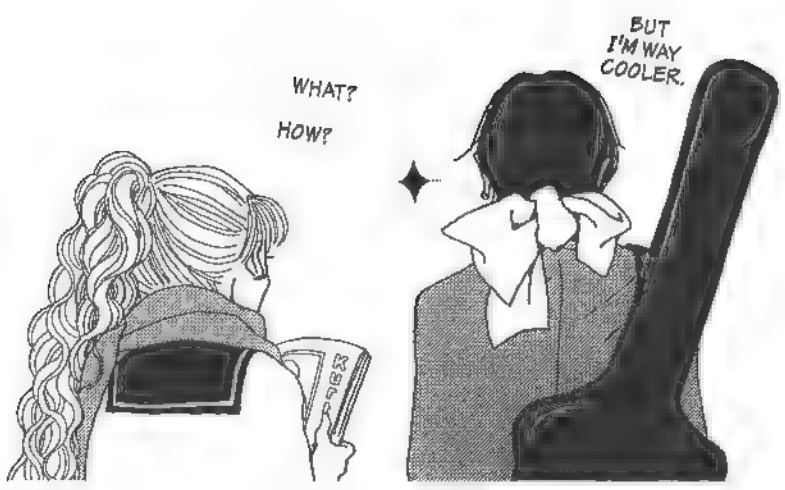
YEAH BUT ...
IT'S 'CAUSE I CAN'T LOOK YOU IN THE EYE.
TAKE THOSE SHADES OFF!
CAN YOU EVEN SEE ME WITH THOSE THINGS ON?
SOMETIMES YOU SEE BETTER WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE.
IT'S DARK OUT HERE.
OH, I KNOW WHY.
HUH, WHAT?
CLOSE YOUR EYES, YOU'LL SEE.
ALL YOUR OTHER SENSES GET STRONGER WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE.
LIKE HERE, RIGHT NOW, YOU CAN ONLY HEAR THE SOUND OF THE WAVES...
...AND FEEL THE CRISP DAWN AIR. YOU SENSE THAT COMPLETELY.
splash..

YOU'RE RIGHT.
HEY, NANA...
HEY, TAKUMI.
WHERE'S REIRA?
YASU JUST TOOK REIRA HOME! ♡
WHY WOULD I KNOW?

DAMN!
THAT BALDY!
REALLY?
PEOPLE'S FEELINGS CHANGE EASILY...
WHAT YOU SEE IS A HOUSE OF CARDS...
NOTHING'S SURE,
AND NOTHING LASTS FOREVER.

BUT EVEN WHEN THE MOON LOOKS LIKE IT'S WANING...
...IT'S ACTUALLY ALWAYS THERE, NEVER CHANGING SHAPE.
DON'T EVER FORGET THAT.




BUT I'M WAY COOLER.
WHAT?
HOW?
KER

I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS SO BAD.

...LAUGHING THAT WE WERE PLAYING MAKE-BELIEVE NEWLY-WEDS.

...WHO COULDN'T GET MARRIED...

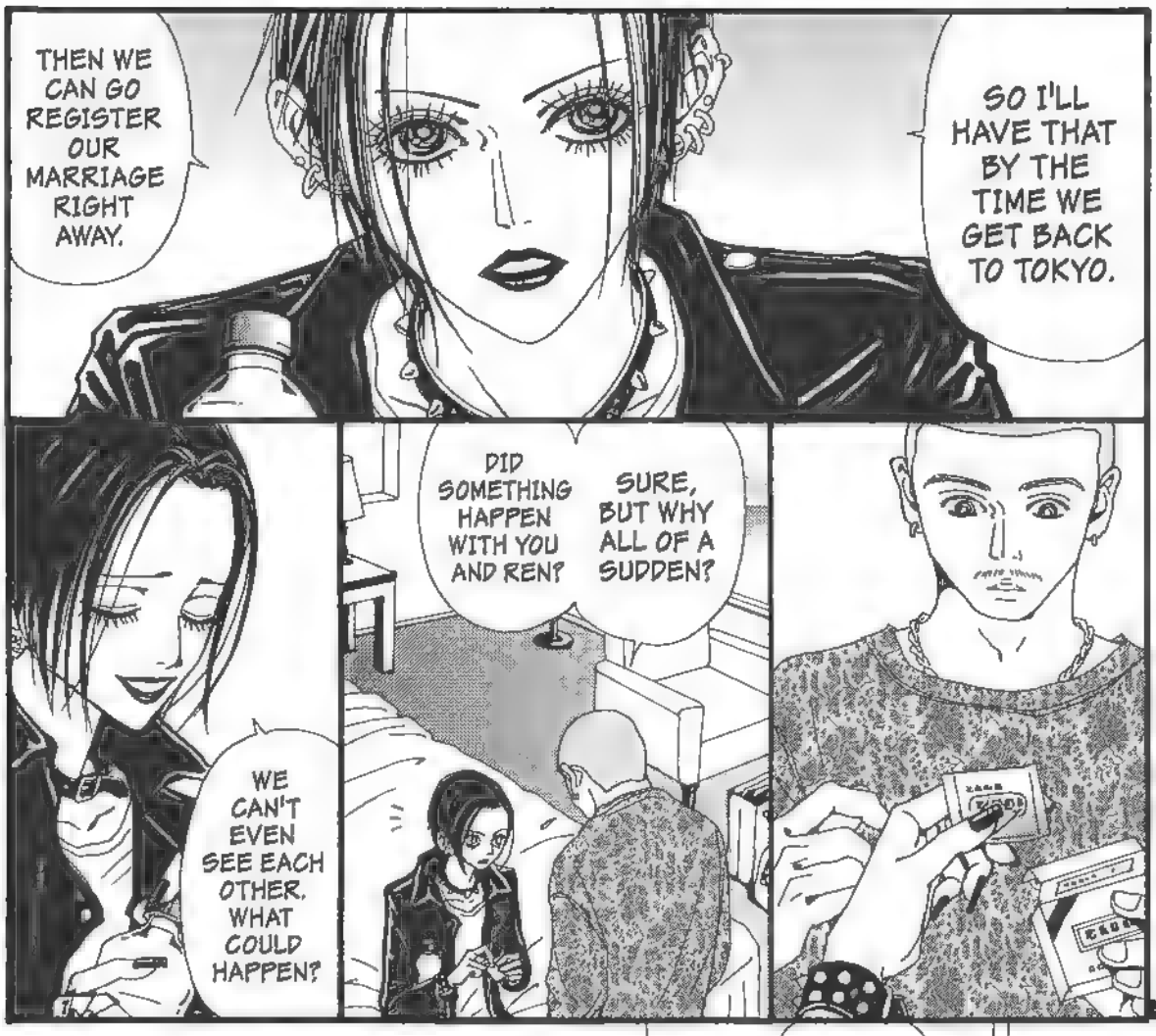
...ATE BREAKFAST FACING EACH OTHER...

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH...

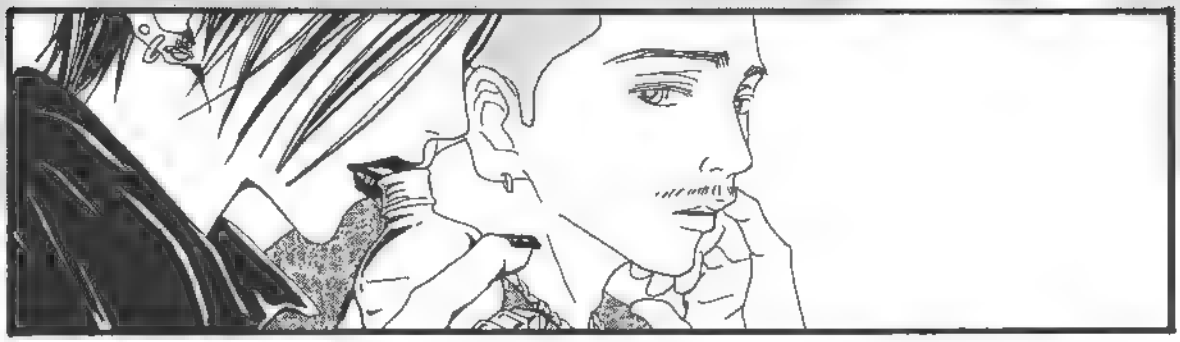
TAKUMI AND I...

[Chapter 53]
NANA

DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING A LITTLE CRAZY WITH THE DRINK-ING?
OH NO, NOT ANOTHER HANG-OVER?
I GUESS I CAN'T LECTURE YOU ABOUT YESTERDAY, 'CAUSE I WAS DRINK-ING WITH YOU...
BUT I HAVE TO TELL THE GROUPIES TO STOP BOOZING US UP.
GINPEI.
HAVE THEM LOOK UP MY LEGAL DOMICILE AND GET A COPY OF MY FAMILY REGISTER.
I CAN GIVE WRITTEN PERMIS-SION AND SEND THAT TO THE AGENCY.
WHAT?
PLOP


THEN WE CAN GO REGISTER OUR MARRIAGE RIGHT AWAY.
SO I'LL HAVE THAT BY THE TIME WE GET BACK TO TOKYO.
WE CAN'T EVEN SEE EACH OTHER. WHAT COULD HAPPEN?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN WITH YOU AND REN?
SURE, BUT WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN?

AT LEAST MORE SO THAN BEFORE.
BUT I HAVE TO COME CLEAN AND DO THINGS RIGHT.
I JUST DIDN'T WANT PEOPLE TO SEE MY OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND STUFF.
I WASN'T WORRIED ABOUT GETTING MARRIED.
BUT YOU WERE SO RELUCTANT BEFORE. WHAT CHANGED?
WELL, YEAH ...
OKAY, SURE, BUT...



LITTLE THINGS LIKE THAT MAKE ME HAPPY.

BUT IT MAKES COOKING EVERY MORNING MORE FUN.

TAKUMI ALWAYS MAKES FUN OF THE PICTURES I DRAW ON THE OMELETTES WITH THE KETCHUP.

YOU HAVE TO TURN IT ON TO MAKE IT WORK.

IT WASN'T BROKEN.

DUH.

THANKS TO YOU, MY CELL PHONE'S WORKING AGAIN.

I'LL EMAIL YOU EVERY DAY, SO YOU BETTER WRITE BACK.

THE POWER OF LOVE?

November 2001

2001

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25				29	30	

YOU'RE NOT COMING BACK TO TOKYO 'TIL THE 18TH.

HOW AM I GONNA MAKE IT?

THAT'S STILL A WEEK AWAY.

STRANGER THINGS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO HAPPEN..

LIKE WHEN YOU'RE ON TOUR.

MAYBE I JUST COULDN'T GET IT TO TURN ON.

ding dong
clack
TAKUMI CAN NEVER DECIDE WHAT TIE TO WEAR...
...SO I ALWAYS PICK IT OUT FOR HIM.
IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M PART OF HIS WORKDAY, AND A LITTLE LESS LONELY.
2202

...WHETHER WE GOT OFFICIALLY MARRIED OR NOT.
EXECUTIVE FLOOR FRONT
AND I FELT LIKE IT DIDN'T MATTER ...
GOOD MORNING, NANA.
DID YOU SLEEP ALL RIGHT?
plunk
IT'LL ARRIVE AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW MORNING. IS THAT ALL RIGHT?
I NEED TO SEND THIS DOCUMENT TO TOKYO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
YES ...
GOOD MORN-ING.
GOOD MORNING..
Times Sports

GOOD MORN-ING!
WOW, EVERY-ONE'S ON TIME TODAY.
GOOD MORNING!
I'M IMPRESSED!
COOL. GIMME THAT.
YOU'RE READING AN ENGLISH NEWSPAPER AGAIN.
HEY.
'CAUSE I HAVE A HARD TIME WITH THE KANJI IN THE JAPANESE PAPERS.
THAT BORING PULP PORN'S ENOUGH LEARNING FOR ME.
THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD READ THEM AND TRY TO LEARN.
UGH.
HEY, I CAN'T UNDER-STAND ANY-THING
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?
FLICK
DON'T YOU LOVE KOTONE?
AW, BUT I THINK THE "MARRIED WOMAN NEXT DOOR" SERIES IS GREAT.
IT'S HILARIOUS.
OH YEAH!
SHE ACTS A LOT LIKE YURI.
AND LOOKS LIKE HER TOO
PICK

NANA.
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU HOOK UP WITH!
WHY?
YOU ALL RIGHT?
...
ACTUALLY, I WAS ASKING ABOUT YOUR HANG-OVER.
I'M TOTALLY FINE!

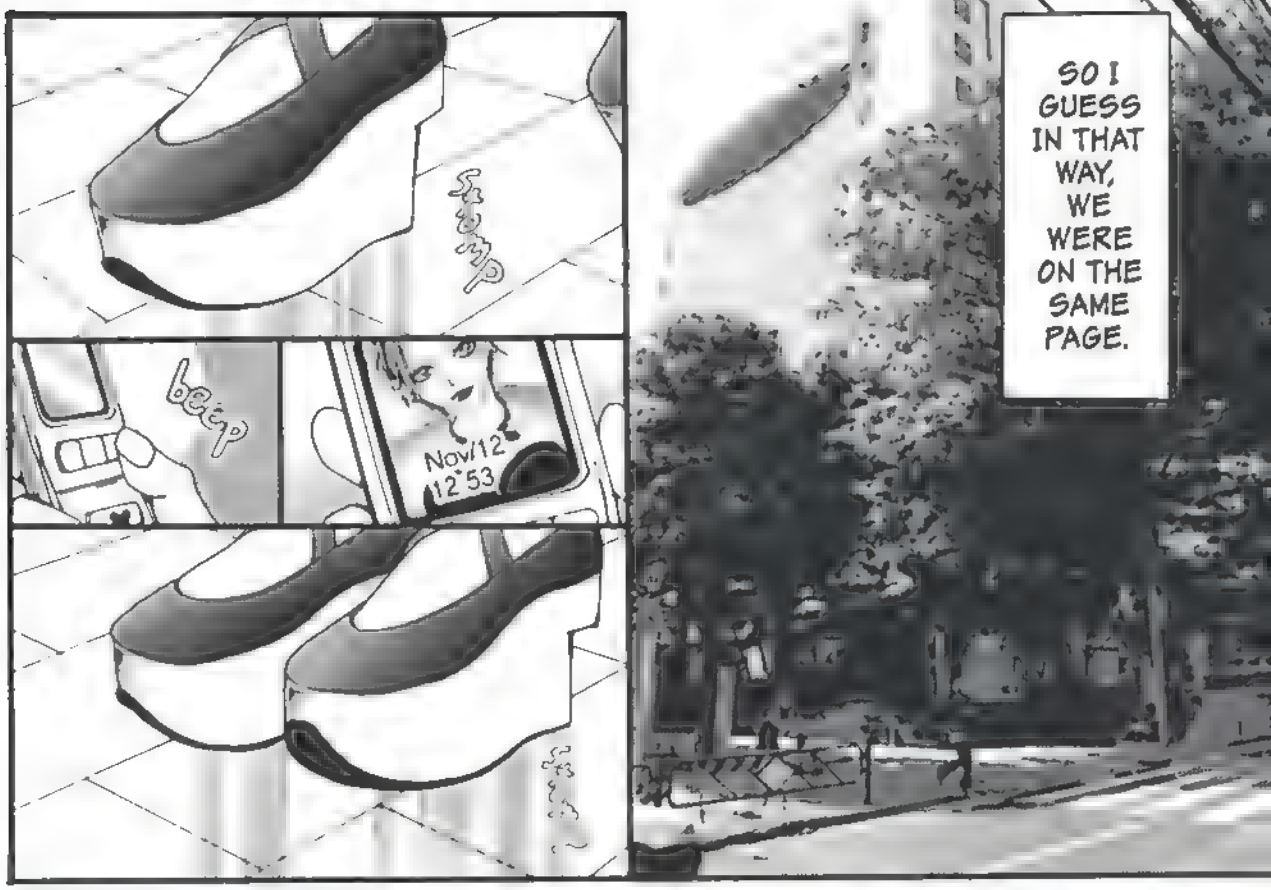
vrrrooo o m
WE'RE BARELY GOING TO MAKE IT BACK IN TIME FOR BAND BIZ.
GOOD THING WE CAUGHT THIS FLIGHT.
SIGH
OH, IS THAT WHEN BALDY FIRST KISSED YOU?
BUT IT'S SO DIFFERENT NOW.
GOING TO SEE THE OLD JUVIE WAREHOUSE REALLY BROUGHT BACK MEMORIES.
NO, I HAD A GREAT TIME. ♡
HOW RUDE.
I MADE YOU GO OUT THERE AND TOOK THE BED.
I'M SORRY ...
SOMETHING IMPORTANT HAPPENED THERE THAT NIGHT.
ONCE WAS ENOUGH. ♡
WHO YOU CALLING A J.D.?
YOU DIDN'T GO THERE ENOUGH TO HAVE MEMORIES.

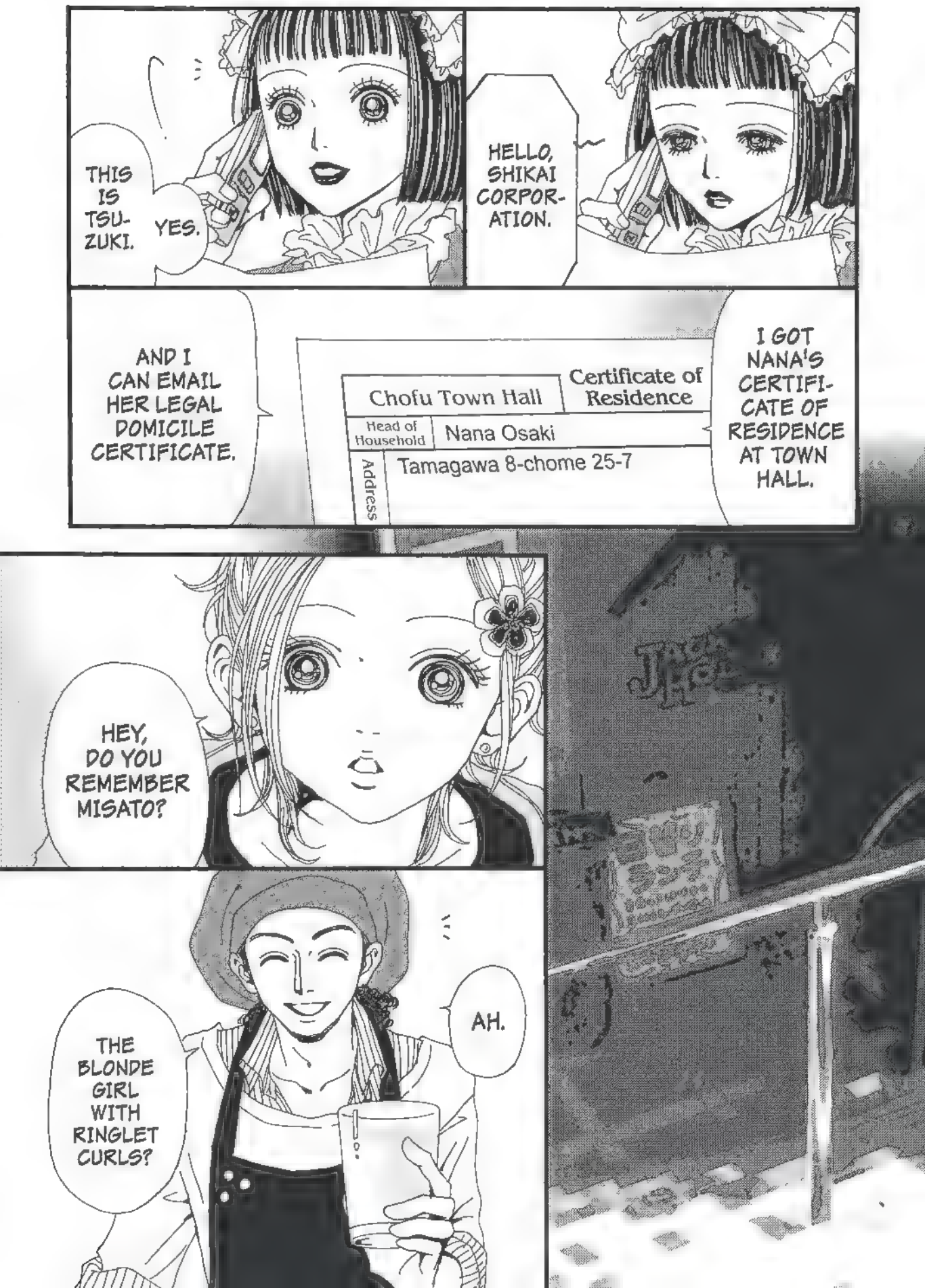
HEY! YASU KISSED ME!
WHAT DO I DO?
WELL, GOODIE FOR YOU.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I'M SURPRISED YASU SAID ANYTHING.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BLABBED ABOUT IT.
THE NEXT DAY YOU CAME TO PRACTICE ALL EXCITED.
NO WAY!
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT AT ALL.
OUCH.
I REMEMBER IT ALL TOO WELL.
IT'S THE ONLY TIME IN MY LIFE I DIDN'T GET THE GIRL.
WELL, YASU...
WHAT ?
...ALWAYS STOOD BACK AND LET ME HAVE WHATEVER I WANTED, EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS.
BUT HE WOULDN'T LET ME HAVE YOU.
AND IT'S THE ONLY TIME THAT'S HAPPENED.

yoooom..

HEY REN...

I GAVE UP EVERYTHING THAT WAS IMPORTANT TO ME, MOVED TO TOKYO, AND BET MY LIFE ON TRAPNEST.
...BUT THEN I CAN'T LET GO OF APART-MENT 707 EITHER.
HE HAS NO INTEN-TION OF GIVING UP HIS AKASAKA APART-MENT...
WE HAVE TO KEEP OUR EYES ON THE PRIZE.
THIS TRIP REMINDED ME OF THAT.
THAT NIGHT, TAKUMI DIDN'T COME HOME. 'CAUSE OF WORK, HE SAID.

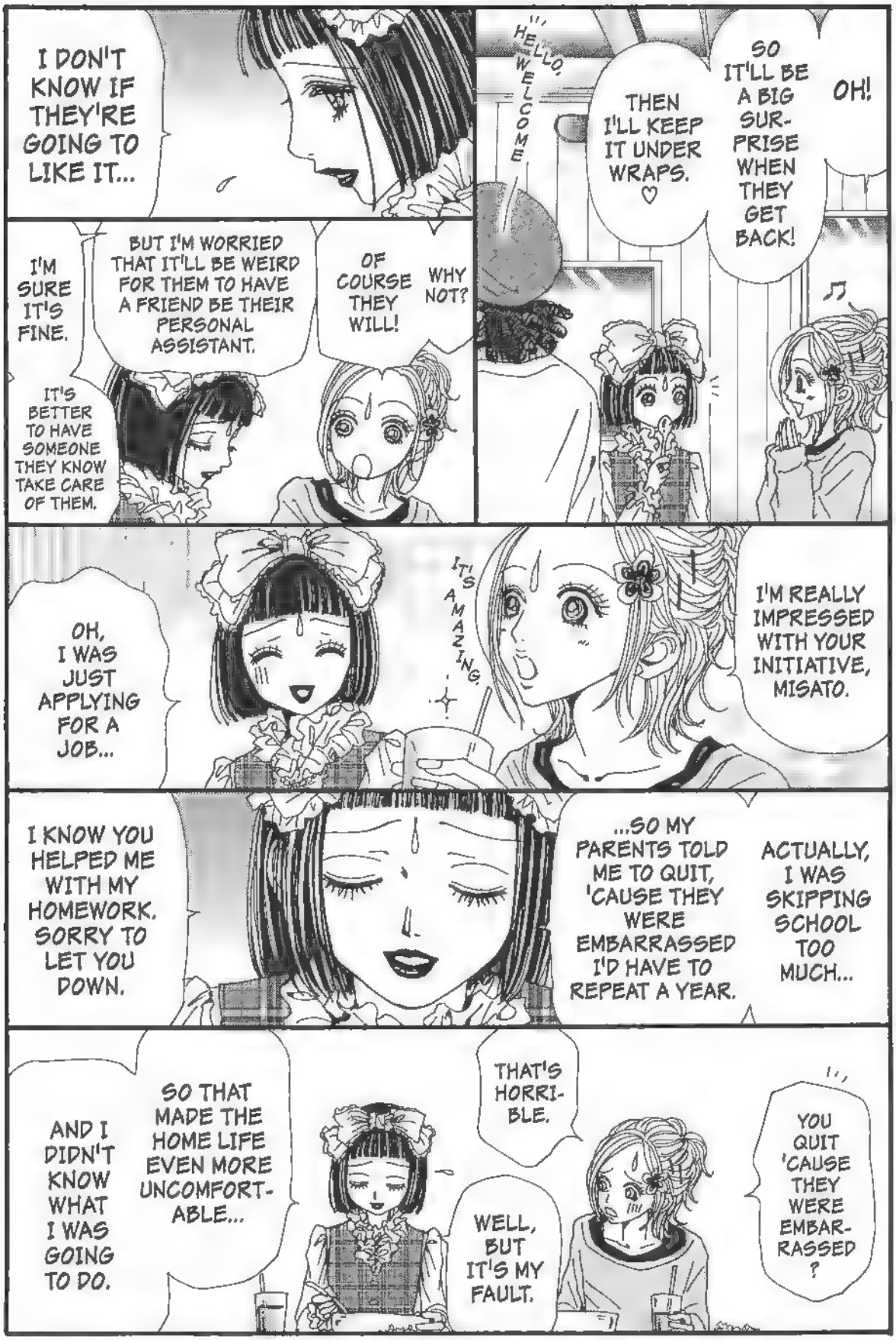

stomp
beep
Nov/12
12:53
SO I GUESS IN THAT WAY, WE WERE ON THE SAME PAGE.


THIS IS TSU-ZUKI.
YES.
HELLO, SHIKAI CORPOR-ATION.
AND I CAN EMAIL HER LEGAL DOMICILE CERTIFICATE.
Chofu Town Hall
Certificate of Residence
Head of Household
Nana Osaki
Address
Tamagawa 8-chome 25-7
I GOT NANA'S CERTIFI-CATE OF RESIDENCE AT TOWN HALL.
HEY, DO YOU REMEMBER MISATO?
THE BLONDE GIRL WITH RINGLET CURLS?
AH.

REALLY?
I'M IMPRESSED, KOICHI SATO. ♡
I ONLY BROUGHT HER HERE ONCE OR TWICE LAST SUMMER. YOU'RE THE ULTIMATE ROLE MODEL BARTENDER!
OH SHE WAS HERE MORE THAN THAT.
SHE CAME IN ALONE SOMETIMES.
SO WHAT HAPPENED TO MISATO?
WELL ...
I WAS AT WORK DURING THE DAY, SO SHE WAS ALONE A LOT.
SO SHE CAME HERE.
THAT'S WEIRD.
NO MATTER WHAT, NOTHING SURPRISES ME ANYMORE.
I HADN'T HEARD FROM HER IN A WHILE, SO I WAS WONDERING HOW SHE'S DOING. THEN SHE CALLED JUST THIS MORNING.
SHE QUIT HIGH SCHOOL AND GOT A JOB HERE. SO I GUESS SHE RAN AWAY FROM HOME AND CAME TO TOKYO!
WHAT?
SHE SEEMS TO KEEP BUSY, AND SHE SAID SHE'LL GIVE ME THE DETAILS WHEN WE MEET.
HI!
ding ding
AND HERE I AM, WITH NOTHING TO DO.
WELCOME TO THE JACKSON—
SO SHE WORKS AROUND HERE?
SHE GETS AN HOUR LUNCH BREAK, SO SHE ASKED ME TO MEET HER HERE AT THE JACKSON.
YEAH, I WAS SURPRISED TOO.
I DON'T KNOW.
IT'S A MYSTERY.

.....
EEEEK!♥
HACHIKO! MR. SATO! LONG TIME NO SEE!
MISATO ?!
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOUR HAIR?!
I CHANGED IT FOR MY JOB INTER-VIEW.
OH.
BUT YOU LOOK EVEN MORE RADICAL NOW.
BUT THEN I FOUND OUT THE COMPANY ISN'T VERY STRICT ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT, SO I'M BACK TO WEARING MY LITTLE GET-UPS.♡
WOW...
KIDS THESE DAYS!
YOU ARE SERIOUS.

WHAT?! SHIKAI CORPOR-ATION?!
I'LL BE THE BAND'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT, DOING A LITTLE-A-THIS AND A LITTLE-A-THAT.
THAT'S BLAST'S AGENCY!
WHAT'S THAT?
SOME BIG COMPANY?
OH, WOW.
GOOD FOR YOU! DID BLAST HELP YOU GET THE JOB?
NO WAY.
I COULDN'T ASK THEM TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
OH ...
SO YOU JUST WENT THERE AND APPLIED ON YOUR OWN?
WOW.
CONGRAT-ULATIONS!
BLAST MUST BE PSYCHED TO HAVE YOU.
WELL ...
THEY'RE ON TOUR RIGHT NOW, SO I DON'T THINK THEY KNOW YET.


I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE GOING TO LIKE IT...
HELLO. WELCOME
OH!
SO IT'LL BE A BIG SURPRISE WHEN THEY GET BACK!
THEN I'LL KEEP IT UNDER WRAPS. ♡
I'M SURE IT'S FINE.
BUT I'M WORRIED THAT IT'LL BE WEIRD FOR THEM TO HAVE A FRIEND BE THEIR PERSONAL ASSISTANT.
IT'S BETTER TO HAVE SOMEONE THEY KNOW TAKE CARE OF THEM.
OF COURSE THEY WILL!
WHY NOT?
OH, I WAS JUST APPLYING FOR A JOB...
IT'S AMAZING.
I'M REALLY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR INITIATIVE, MISATO.
I KNOW YOU HELPED ME WITH MY HOMEWORK. SORRY TO LET YOU DOWN.
...SO MY PARENTS TOLD ME TO QUIT, 'CAUSE THEY WERE EMBARRASSED I'D HAVE TO REPEAT A YEAR.
ACTUALLY, I WAS SKIPPING SCHOOL TOO MUCH...
AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS GOING TO DO.
SO THAT MADE THE HOME LIFE EVEN MORE UNCOMFORTABLE...
THAT'S HORRIBLE.
WELL, BUT IT'S MY FAULT.
YOU QUIT 'CAUSE THEY WERE EMBARRASSED?

BUT THE PRESIDENT OF SHIKAI DOESN'T CARE ABOUT DIPLOMAS OR RESUMÉS.
HE LIKED MY ENERGY AND AMBITION.
I DIDN'T THINK I'D GET THE JOB. I WAS SO HAPPY I ALMOST CRIED.
WHY DO I ALWAYS MAKE EVERY SITUATION ABOUT ME?
SO IT WASN'T 'CAUSE SHE WAS MAD AT ME THAT SHE DIDN'T KEEP IN TOUCH.
OH...
BUT I'M GIVING IT MY ALL.
...SO NOW IT'S MY TURN TO SUPPORT BLAST.
BLAST HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED ME...
THEY HAVE ME DOING VARIOUS THINGS RIGHT NOW, BUT A LOT OF IT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, SO I GET IN TROUBLE EVERY DAY.
I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT.
IT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE MUCH MORE MATURE THAN THE AVERAGE GROWNUP!
LIKE YOU'RE ALWAYS SO POLITE!

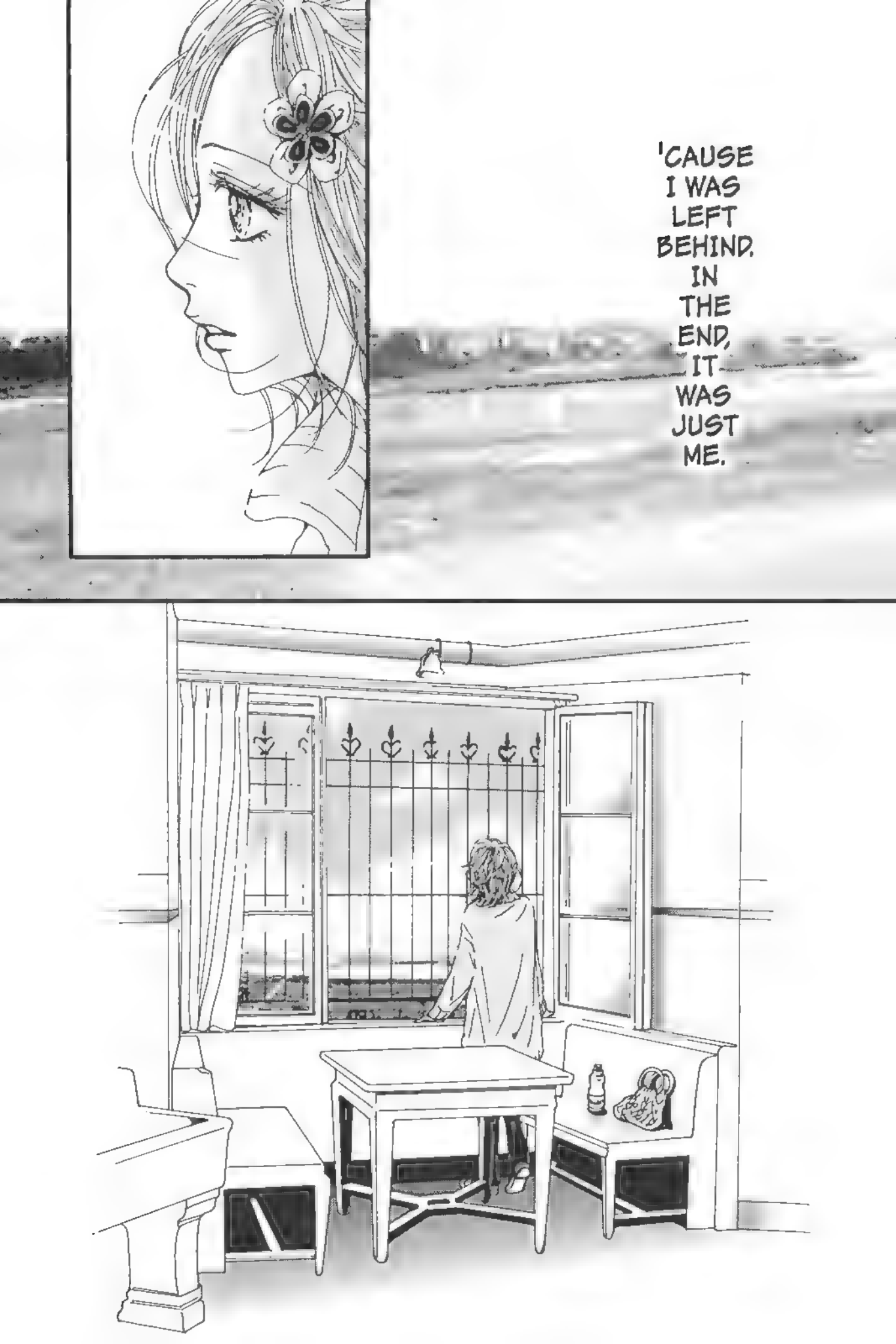
CD・DV
TERM
AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR AUTOGRAPHS FOR MY DAUGHTER. SHE'LL BE VERY EXCITED.
THANKS FOR COMING ALL THE WAY OVER HERE TODAY.
Hiroshi Takada (45)
Branch Manager
Terminal Records
Sapporo Branch
Thank you for your support!
WE'RE WORKING REALLY HARD, AND WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
NO, THANK YOU FOR MEETING WITH US TODAY. ♡

A COPY OF YOUR FAMILY REGISTER WILL ARRIVE THIS WEEK.
YOUR LEGAL DOMI-CILE.
WHAT'D I DO?
WHAT IS IT?
...
I GOT AN EMAIL FROM THE AGENCY.
NANA ...
I'LL TAKE YOU.
YOU CAN GO OUT THIS WAY.
THANK YOU.
Vrrroom
SHOULDN'T YOU WRITE IT DOWN?
ALL RIGHT. THANKS.
DON'T WORRY, I CAN REMEMBER MY GRANDMA'S ADDRESS.

ALL RIGHT?
NANA AND YASU, YOU'RE GOING TO MORIOKA WITH ME.
NOBU AND SHIN, YOU'RE GOING TO NIIGATA WITH MR. KAWANO.
OKAY, NOW WE'RE GOING TO SPLIT UP.
TRAPNEST —REIRA—
beep
Send email
THE EVIL FOX MET US IN HOKKAIDO JUST FOR THE CRAB, RIGHT?
AND I'M SICK OF SEEING NOBU'S FACE...
WE'RE NOT A COMEDY TEAM.
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO WITH BALDY?!
NO.
ON GAIA'S DIME, EVEN
....
ENOUGH ALREADY.
Term.not Records
BUT YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT ABOUT THE CRAB.
DON'T GET BRATTY. WE'RE SHORT-STAFFED, SO HE CAME TO HELP OUT, EVEN THOUGH HE'S REALLY BUSY HIMSELF.
WE NEED A CUTE YOUNG BOY.
AND I HAVE MY DOUBTS THAT A YOUNG GIRL CAN REALLY DO THE WORK.
BRINGING A FRESH HIRE ON THE ROAD HALFWAY THROUGH TOUR IS A BAD IDEA.
LET'S HAVE MAI COME ALONG TOO. ♡
YEAH, I HEARD IT FROM ALL THE DORM ROOMIES.
I HEAR SHE'S CUTE!
MAI TSUZUKI. ♡
BUT NOW WE GOT A NEW LADY PERSONAL ASSISTANT, RIGHT?

SORRY FOR DRAGGING YOU INTO THIS.
I FIGURED YOU BROKE UP WITH NOBU BY THE WAY EVERYONE WAS ACTING...
...BUT I HAD NO IDEA ABOUT ANYTHING AFTER THAT.
OH NO...
I'M SORRY. I SHOULD'VE TOLD YOU.
I'M GOING TO THE TRAIN STATION. WHERE ARE YOU GOING, HACHIKO?
I'M GOING TO DO SOME CLEANUP AT APARTMENT 707, THEN GO HOME.
BUT I'LL WALK YOU TO THE STATION. ♡
BUT SHIROGANE IS REALLY NICE.
IT'LL BE A GOOD PLACE TO RAISE YOUR KID.
YEAH.
THAT WAS OUR FIRST PRIORITY WHEN WE LOOKED FOR A PLACE.
I'M GLAD, YOU LOOK HAPPY.
YOUR FIANCÉ MUST BE A GOOD MAN.♡
WELL!!
HE'S HIGH MAINTENANCE.
OH REALLY?
SO I WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE YOU OVER MUCH...
...BUT LET'S GO SHOPPING AND OUT TO EAT TOGETHER SOMETIME. ♡
WHEN I SAY THAT, NO ONE ASKS ANY MORE QUESTIONS.
I WAS STARTING TO LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH PEOPLE.

STOMP
I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I GET SOME FREE TIME.
I'M SORRY. NOT THAT I DON'T TRUST MISATO...
YEAH, DO! ♡
GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR NEW JOB!
MISATO WAS MAKING HER DREAMS COME TRUE.
...EVEN WEARING THE SAME SHOES...
SPORTING THE SAME OUTFITS AS NANA...
I WAS JEALOUS.
EVEN IF HER NEW SALARY CAN'T AFFORD HER THE VIVIENNE SHE SO CRAVES...
EVEN IF SHE REGRETS CHOPPING OFF HER BLONDE RINGLETS...


'CAUSE I WAS LEFT BEHIND. IN THE END, IT WAS JUST ME.

BUT EVEN THOUGH...

I DON'T NEED TO BE JEALOUS OF OTHERS.

...I HAVE SOME-THING OF MY OWN TO CHERISH.

...AND BLAST AND I GROW FURTHER APART...

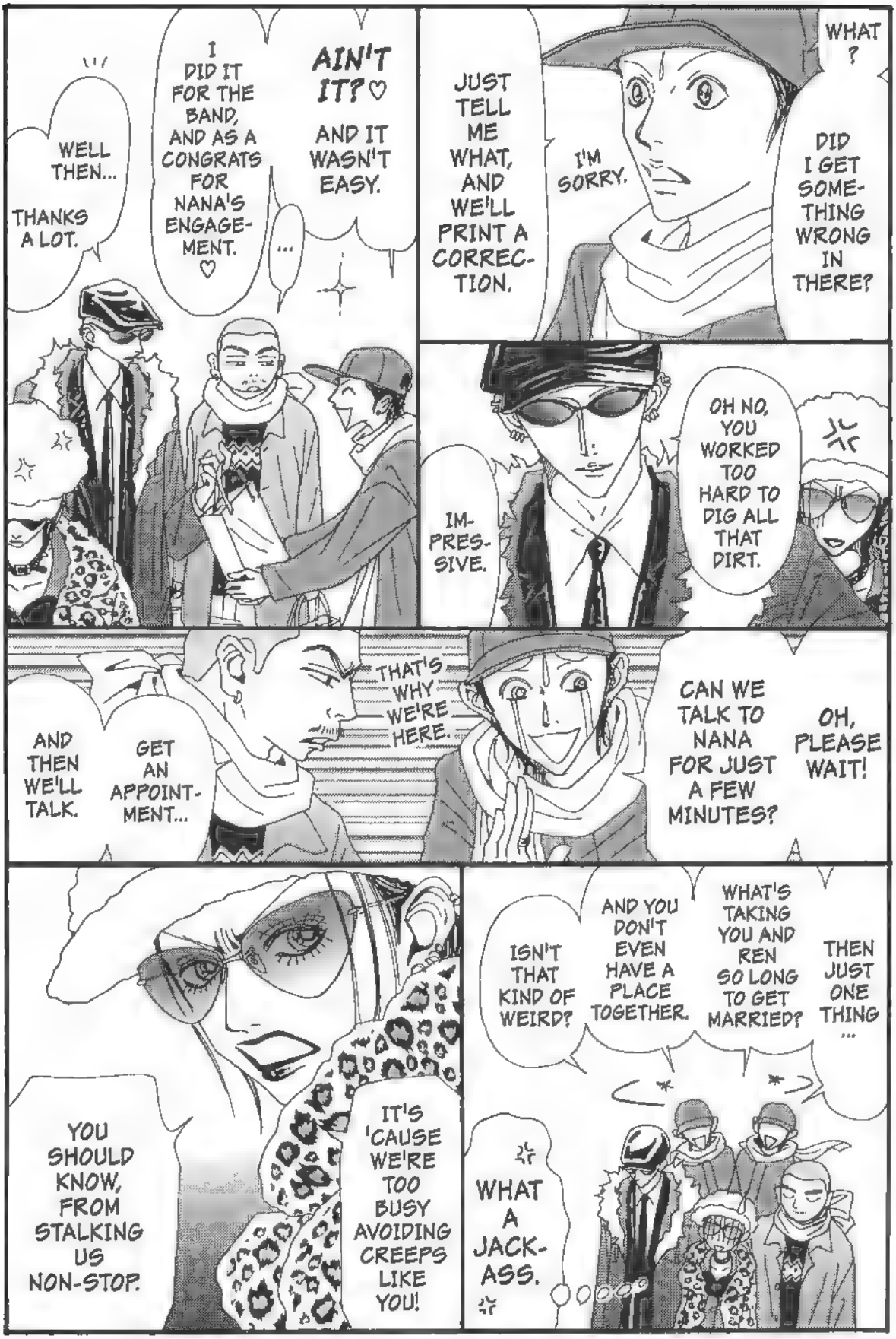
...I CAN'T ROCK THE HEELS I LOVE...

WHAT PEOPLE CONSIDER PRECIOUS ...
...IS DIFFERENT FOR EVERY-BODY.
K
HOTEL
MORIOKA
P

YOU ALL RIGHT, KURATA?
DON'T GIVE ME THAT COLD!
cough
COUGH HACK WHEEZE
I DIDN'T THINK YOU TOOK YOUR WORK SERIOUSLY.
I CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE CRAZY ENOUGH TO FOLLOW THEM ALL THE WAY OUT THERE BY YOURSELF.
NO WONDER YOU GOT SICK.
TRUE THAT.
I SHOULDN'T BE A CONTRACTOR.
cough
BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD I WORK, THE PAY'S ALWAYS THE SAME. IT'S NOT FAIR.
AND SUDDENLY EVERYTHING GOT MORE FUN.
PEOPLE MADE SUCH A BIG DEAL OVER THAT ONE PHOTO I'D TAKEN.
SEE?
...IT REALLY FELT LIKE I'D ACHIEVED SOMETHING...
BUT WHEN I GOT THAT EXCLUSIVE NANA AND REN SHOT...

THEY'RE HERE.
Vrooom
Ssss
vroom
STOMP
NANA!
CLICK

CAN WE TALK TO YOU FOR A SECOND?
flash
click
WAY TO GO!
IF YOU WANT AN INTERVIEW, YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH OUR AGENCY.
SLAM
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
NO PHOTOS WITHOUT PERMISSION!
click
.....
OH, EXCUSE ME... I'M MIYAKE FROM SEARCH.
HUH?!
THANKS FOR THE IN.
OH, YOU'RE THAT GUY!
WHAT YOU WROTE ABOUT YASU WAS ALL LIES, AND YOU KNOW IT! JUST 'CAUSE YASU PUNCHED YOU!
NANA ...
HOW CAN YOU EVEN SHOW YOUR FACE AROUND HERE?!

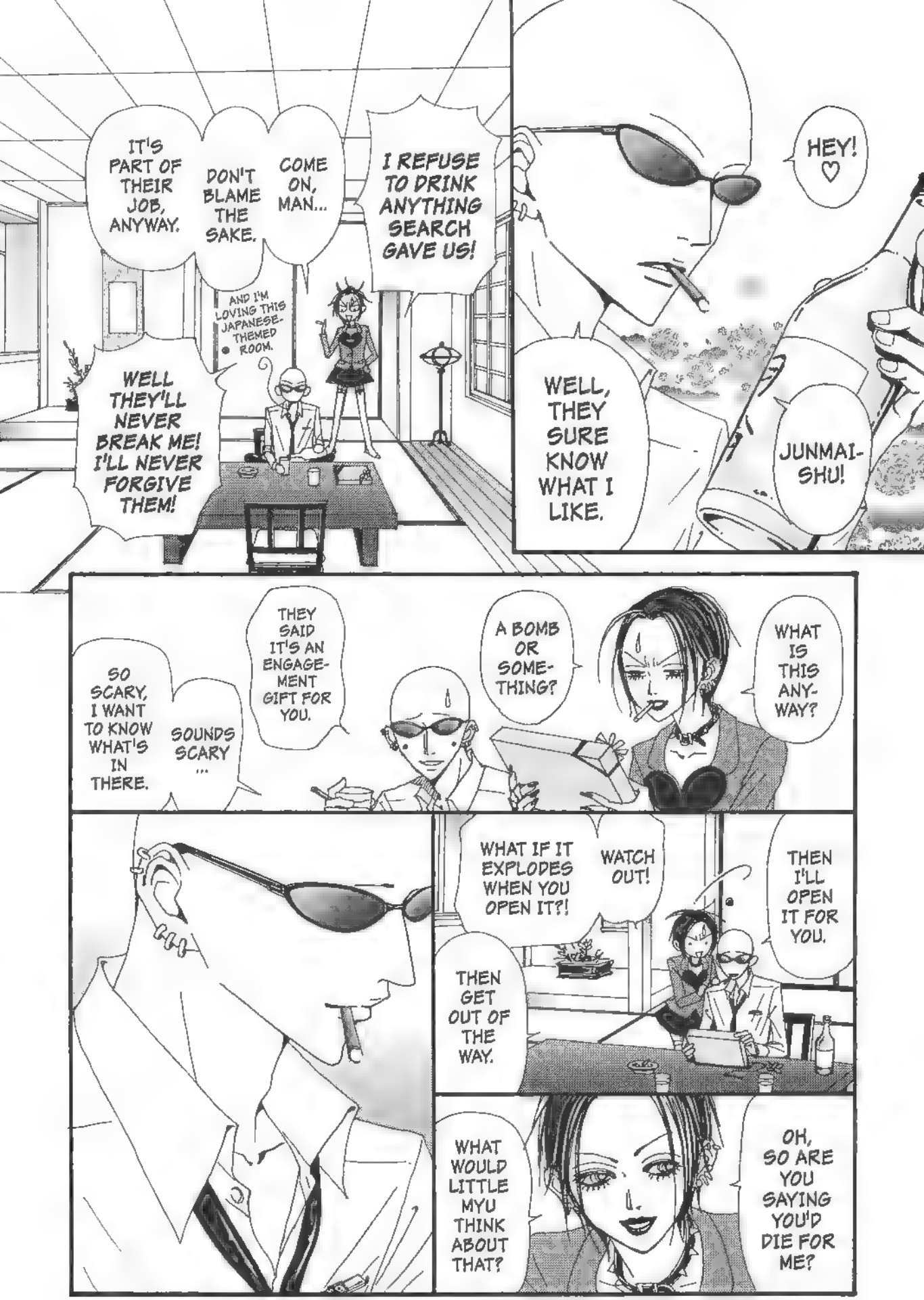

WELL THEN...
THANKS A LOT.
I DID IT FOR THE BAND, AND AS A CONGRATS FOR NANA'S ENGAGEMENT. ♡
...
AIN'T IT? ♡
AND IT WASN'T EASY.
I'M SORRY.
JUST TELL ME WHAT, AND WE'LL PRINT A CORRECTION.
WHAT?
DID I GET SOMETHING WRONG IN THERE?
IMPRESSIVE.
OH NO, YOU WORKED TOO HARD TO DIG ALL THAT DIRT.
AND THEN WE'LL TALK.
GET AN APPOINTMENT...
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE.
CAN WE TALK TO NANA FOR JUST A FEW MINUTES?
OH, PLEASE WAIT!
YOU SHOULD KNOW, FROM STALKING US NON-STOP.
IT'S 'CAUSE WE'RE TOO BUSY AVOIDING CREEPS LIKE YOU!
ISN'T THAT KIND OF WEIRD?
AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A PLACE TOGETHER.
WHAT'S TAKING YOU AND REN SO LONG TO GET MARRIED?
THEN JUST ONE THING...
WHAT A JACK-ASS.

Weekly SEARCH
Editorial Department
ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
KUDO!
GOOD. THANK YOU.
HEY, IT'S MIYAKE.
WE'VE CONFIRMED THAT NANA AND REN ARE NOT YET OFFICIALLY MARRIED.
MR. YOKOHAMA SAID YOU HAVE TO CALL TRAPNEST'S AGENCY TO CONFIRM THE FACTS.
WE DON'T WANT NARITA BUSTING IN TO COMPLAIN AGAIN.
Yoshiyuki Arai (47)
Divorced twice
Assistant Editor
Weekly SEARCH

WELL, NARITA'S TIGHT WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE IN HIGH PLACES, SO MR. YOKOHAMA SAID TO TREAD LIGHTLY.
Don't worry about it!
WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT THEIR IDIOT AGENCY PRESI-DENT?!
WHAT THE ?!
.....
stomp stomp stomp
LOOK, IF YOU KEEP FIGHTING WITH MANAGE-MENT HERE, THEY'RE GOING TO TRANSFER YOU TO GET YOU OUT OF THE WAY.
He should just move to the Southern Islands permanently!
LIKE HE NEEDS ANOTHER VACA-TION!
WHY SHOULD I LISTEN TO AN EDITOR WHO'S ON VACATION AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
AND I'M YOUR BOSS TOO, YOU KNOW.
YOU MIGHT BE OLDER THAN ME, BUT...
GOD IT SUCKS WORKING UNDER PEOPLE.

THIS IS KUDO, ENTER-TAINMENT EDITOR OF WEEKLY SEARCH.
I'D LIKE TO TALK TO PRESI-DENT NARITA.
HELLO, COOKIE MUSIC.
WELL, HELLO THERE! ♡

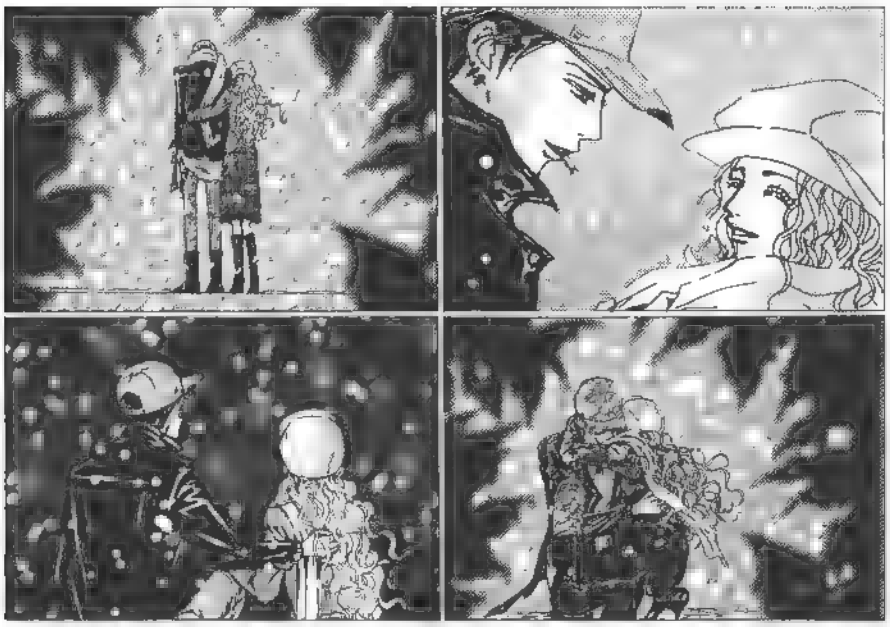
302
WEL-COME HOME, HONEY! ♡
I'M HOME! ♡
ring!
click
...
TAKUMI!
YOU HAVE TO GET OVER HERE RIGHT NOW!
SORRY, GOTTA GO.
NOOO!


IT'S PART OF THEIR JOB, ANYWAY.
DON'T BLAME THE SAKE.
COME ON, MAN...
I REFUSE TO DRINK ANYTHING SEARCH GAVE US!
AND I'M LOVING THIS JAPANESE-THEMED ROOM.
WELL THEY'LL NEVER BREAK ME! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE THEM!
HEY! ♡
WELL, THEY SURE KNOW WHAT I LIKE.
JUNMAI-SHU!
SO SCARY, I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S IN THERE.
SOUNDS SCARY ...
THEY SAID IT'S AN ENGAGE-MENT GIFT FOR YOU.
A BOMB OR SOME-THING?
WHAT IS THIS ANY-WAY?
WHAT IF IT EXPLODES WHEN YOU OPEN IT?!
WATCH OUT!
THEN I'LL OPEN IT FOR YOU.
THEN GET OUT OF THE WAY.
WHAT WOULD LITTLE MYU THINK ABOUT THAT?
OH, SO ARE YOU SAYING YOU'D DIE FOR ME?

rip
Congratulations, Ms. Nana Osaki
POW
W!
heh
heh
heh
YOU'RE WHAT'S SCARY AROUND HERE.
GODDAMMIT!

11.11

CLAMP
....
WHAT SCUM-BAGS...
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE THEM FOR THIS.
HEY, NANA...



IS THERE ANYTHING THAT REMAINS PRECIOUS IN YOUR HEART?

YOU LEFT YOUR RED LOVE JACKET BEHIND,
YOUR SEX PISTOLS RECORDS, YOUR VINTAGE GUITAR...

EVERYTHING...

AND WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Junko's Place
7F SNACK BAR
Closed 'cause I'm too busy being in the main story.
-Junko-mama
I WASN'T ?!
BUT YOU WEREN'T EVEN IN THIS VOLUME!

NANA to Become TV Anime!

THE NANA MOVIE

Because it was a huge hit, they're making a sequel!

Hitting a theater near you in 2007! ♡ Line up!

Original Soundtrack Out Now

Featuring 19 songs and a bonus DVD of live Blast and Trapnest footage! ♡

〈Released by Music Ray'n〉

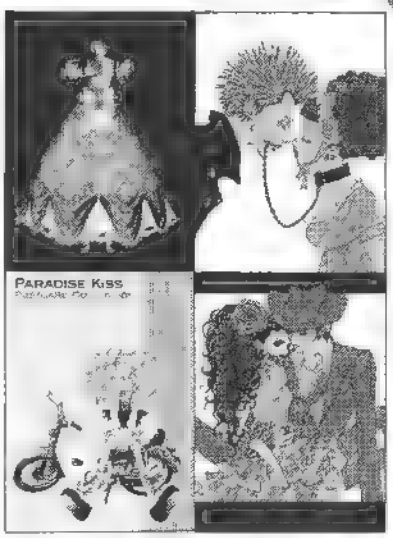
The DVD of the first movie was released March 3rd, 2006!

Experience the excitement! And it's the Doll Festival, too! ♡

Starting next spring, it'll broadcast on Nippon TV! Preparations underway! Details to be announced in the next issue! So keep your eyes peeled! ♡

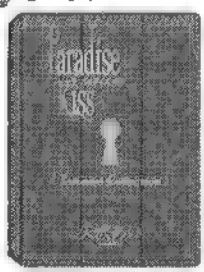
The Family Times

Dec. 15, 2005



Paradise Kiss

Illustrations from ParaKiss now all together in a gorgeous postcard book. 32 postcards in all, with special stickers too. ♡ They can be used as regular postcards if you stick a stamp on it!



Postcard Collection

The book comes in a beautiful blue box with a pink keyhole. Available at your neighborhood bookstore. ♡

Data: Size B6
¥1500 (tax incl.)
Manufactured by Shodensha

For Sale Now! ♡

"Have You Seen Me?"

Misato Uehara (alias?)

Nobuo Terashima

Nana Osaki

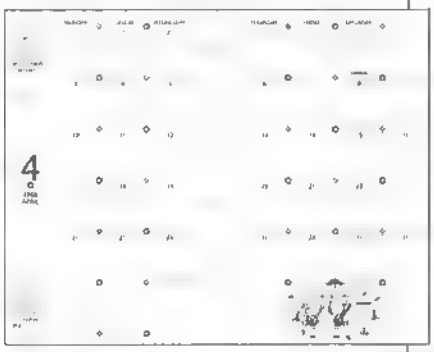
Nana Komatsu

It's not too late!

Cookie, January Issue (out now)☆ February Issue (out Dec. 26th)

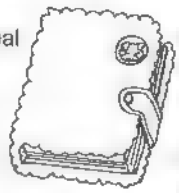
♡Great news!

The personal organizers contain lots of stuff! Below is a monthly memo page from the Hachi version It contains 12 months worth of new illustrations.♡



The Nana Personal Organizer is made of black leather with studs—super cool! (Comes with a padlock and key)

The Hachi Personal Organizer has a white fur cover—super cute!♡ With pink monograms under the cover. (Comes with a metal badge)

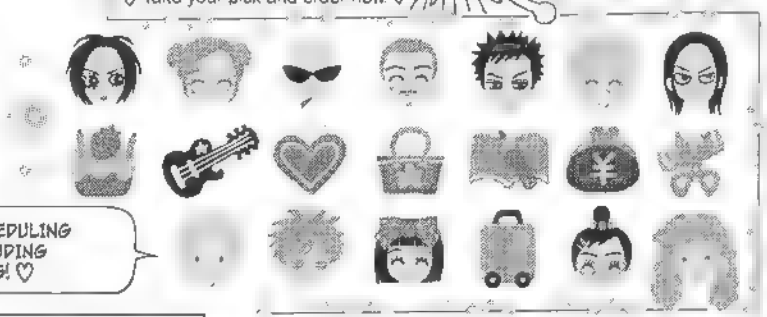


You can order a Nana or Hachi personal organizer or calendar!

Both cover the periods of April 2006 through March 2007.

The January issue of *Cookie* includes exclusive scheduling stickers to use in your personal organizer! Run to your bookstore now!

♡ Take your pick and order now ♡



THERE ARE 20 TYPES OF SCHEDULING STICKERS, 120 IN ALL, INCLUDING BIGGER, SUPER CUTE ONES! ♡

ANIME

"Gokinjyo Monogatari Zenkyokushu" Out Now!

♡ ALL DVDS OF THE ANIME ARE FOR RENT AT THE VIDEO STORE! SO GO WATCH 'EM! ♡

A commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the TV anime "Gokinjyo." The Zenkyokushu include theme songs and other songs from the anime, 19 songs altogether, 23 versions + 3 karaoke versions! It's a 2-CD set, ¥3150 (tax incl.)♡

〈Released by〉 Columbia Music Entertainment

Get the latest information here!

Continuously ⬇ updated!

The official website

NANA online

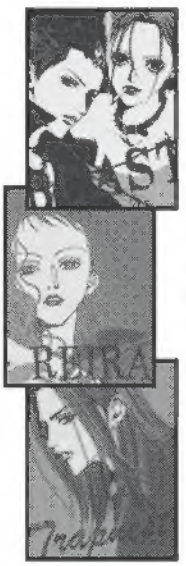
http://www.s-NANA.com

The February issue comes with memo refills for your personal organizer, with comforting illustrations! ♡

YOU CAN EVEN USE THE STICKERS AND MEMO REFILLS WITH YOUR OWN 6-HOLE PERSONAL ORGANIZERS! SO GET 'EM NOW! ♡

With ever increasing content, people are signing up fast!

Mobile site "Mobile NANA"



With these illustrations, what are you waiting for?

The most hits! The NANA Quiz!

Why is it so popular? 'Cause lots of people return to it after making mistakes. The biggest reason why people are so into it is 'cause you can download limited-edition standby display illustrations if you answer all the questions correctly! It's a cult quiz, so it's difficult—but it's worth trying! Take the challenge!

Updated every Friday

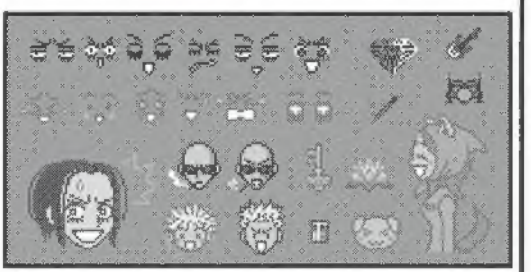
Lots of cute picture icons!

"Decome Icons"

Continuously updated

In addition to the popular templates, now there are cute picture icons!! Decome materials have snatched the hearts of i-mode users.♡ In addition to Nana and Hachi, other character icons will be added, so check 'em out! NANA-customize your emails to your friends!

We apologize to EZ and Vodafone users for not being able to use them!



"KOKODAKE NO HANASHI" BY AUTHOR AI YAZAWA.

Updated the first of every month

Stuff you can only read here, from her daily life to secret stories about her work! Only "mobile NANA" members can read Ai Yazawa's columns regularly!

☆ Ring tones are updated randomly!

We're planning more new content, and taking requests too. ♡

Even-number Months:

The 26th☆ NANA polls

Every Month:

The 1st & 15th☆ Calendars

The 7th & 26th☆ NANA Fortune-telling

The 17th & 27th☆ Original ring tones

The 26th☆ Email send/ receive illustrations

Every Week:

Monday through Friday☆ Standby display illustrations

Monday☆ Flash accessories

Tuesday☆ Decome Template Materials

Wednesday☆ NANA mail

Thursday☆ Photo frames

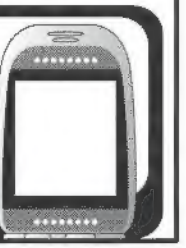
Check out the update schedules!

You can download as many standby display illustrations as you want!! Titles other than "NANA" available too!

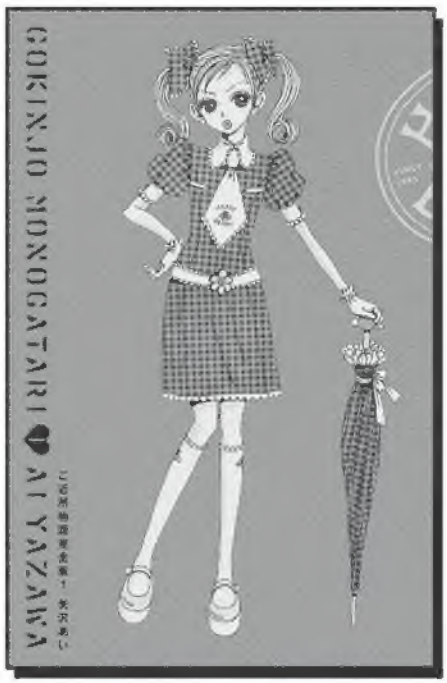
Like "Gokinjyo Monogatari" and "Kagen no Tsuki." And the super popular "Tenshi Nanka Jya Nai," which came out in August, will be available again for a limited time in December!

How to Access the Site! All these features, and it's only ¥315 (tax incl.) a month!

*** [You can use the following URL from each carrier] **http://m.s-nana.com/** ***



Super Cute Binding, 4 Volumes Total



You can meet Mikako and Noriji **and Tsutomu again!**

"Gokinjyo Monogatari" Complete Edition Vols. 1~3

—4 Volumes Total—

With a newly drawn illustration on each cover! This gorgeous edition contains a super rare illustration gallery. ♥ Finish off 2005 with Gokinjyo!

Price ¥1260 each (tax incl.) From Shueisha.

Warp to Your Bookstore!

Vol. 4 hits stores Dec. 20th (Tuesday)!

☆All products listed in our newsletter actually exist! Purchase without fear.

I confess. The seven characters I find easiest to draw (as pictures and as characters) are Kudo from *Search Weekly*, Hachi's father, Kawano from Gaia, Matsuo from Gaia, the guard Yamagishi, Ginpei Moroboshi, and Mitsuru Narita. I've been a mangaka for 20 years. Lately I've been wondering about myself as a shojo mangaka.☺
–Ai Yazawa

Ai Yazawa is the creator of many popular manga titles, including *Tenshi Nanka Janai* (I'm No Angel) and *Gokinjo Monogatari* (Neighborhood Story). Another series, *Kagen no Tsuki* (Last Quarter), was made into a live-action movie and released in late 2004. American readers were introduced to Yazawa's stylish and sexy storytelling in 2002 when her title *Paradise Kiss* was translated into English.

Nana has become the all-time best-selling shojo title from Japanese publishing giant Shueisha, and the series even garnered a Shogakukan Manga Award in the girls category in 2003. A live-action *Nana* movie was released in Japan in 2006.

Shojo Beat

NANA
VOL. 14

The Shojo Beat Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY AI YAZAWA

English Adaptation/Allison Wolfe
Translation/Tomo Kimura
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Sabrina Heep
Design/Julie Behn
Editor/Pancha Diaz

Editor in Chief, Books/Alvin Lu
Editor in Chief, Magazines/Marc Weidenbaum
VP, Publishing Licensing/Rika Inouye
VP, Sales & Product Marketing/Gonzalo Ferreyra
VP, Creative/Linda Espinosa
Publisher/Hyoe Narita

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RATED
M
FOR MATURE
PARENTAL ADVISORY
NANA is rated M for Mature and is recommended for mature readers. This volume contains strong language and sexual situations.
ratings.viz.com